

BAY AREA REPORTER

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The Big Quack Up. The Duck Dump was one of the games of chance at the CMC Carnival on Pier 45 Sunday. You bought a number and wherever the duck landed, that was the winning number. Of course, the duck landed on 69. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

WILD AND WOOLLY

A Night in the Baths Of Old Budapest

Where Nobody Ever Heard of Safe Sex

by Bob Woolhouse

This was the place for the action. Spartacus gave it two stars—more than any other Gay contact place behind the Iron Curtain—the highest rating east or west of Moscow until you hit Berlin on one side or Tokyo on the other.

It was the baths of the Hotel Gellert, located in the beautiful old town of Buda, just across the Danube from the new city of Pest. The designated time, according to the Gay travel guide, was Tuesday and Thursday after 4 p.m.

I paid a few hundred Hungarian Forints (about 67½ cents) to the cashier, who asked something that sounded distinctly like, "Szektylovich kvecshyhi?" I nodded, smiled and swept in, having agreed, for all I knew, to counter-revolutionary bisexual boogie.

Expecting a state of the art Grecian bacchanal and quite possibly another fall of the entire Roman Empire, I entered a stained glass dome atrium and proceeded to go into cultural shock. Instead of the Last Days of Pompeii, I found the Hungarian version of the East Bay Bus Terminal at rush hour.

MAN IN BATHROBE

Humanity in all of its variations rushed hither and yon—down stairways, in and out of tunnels and along ramps. A man entered from the street wearing bathrobe, slippers, and PJ's, looking like an ad in the Sears Roebuck catalogue of 1925. Perhaps this was his dress for success approach to Gay night at the baths.

A grandmotherly type in black widow's weeds zoomed by smiling and waving. The startling thing was not that she entered one of the tunnels used

cont. on next page

United Has Unfriendly Skies For Employees With AIDS

Places Workers on Leave Without Pay Refuses to Reassign; Boycott Called

by George Mendenhall

A former United Airlines flight attendant, Gar Traynor, has become the center of attention in a national effort to stem employment discrimination against people with AIDS. The Los Angeles-based employee was placed on "medical leave of absence" against his wishes by United on June 28, 1983. This was six months after he informed the company of his AIDS diagnosis. A similar United incident has surfaced in Chicago. Locally, a national boycott against United is being organized by People With AIDS.

The memberships of two local Gay Democratic clubs—Harvey Milk and Alice B. Toklas—have endorsed the United boycott. Toklas and Stonewall Democrats executive committee are also urging the city's Board of Supervisors to endorse a city-wide boycott. The effort has been initiated by John Lorenzini, chair of People With AIDS.

United has been informed by Traynor's UCLA physician, Dr. Robert Mitsuyasu, that his client is "fully functional in terms of daily activities... he has no apparent medical limitations which should prevent him from performing work responsibilities or his usual activities of daily living." United did not agree.

Dr. C. R. Harper of United said, "The exact method of transmission of AIDS is in fact not only controversial but at this point in time conjectural. Since the bulk of the duties as a Flight Attendant involve food and beverage handling, it was felt that in the interest of United's flying public that you not perform those duties as a Flight Attendant."

Lorenzini is outraged by the company response: "United's assumption is wrong. There is no evidence that AIDS is casually transmitted. It is not a health issue with them, but one of image. I prepare and serve food for my friends and no one is endangered."

Although Flight Attendants prepare food and drink, Lorenzini pointed to United's real position in the case of Bruce Hall of Chicago. Hall worked in the accounting department of United but was arbitrarily placed on medical leave after he was briefly hospitalized for AIDS in September 1983.

Hall said that when he attempted to return to work on Jan. 5, the airport physician used by United told him, "We don't have people like you working for us. Go home, stay home, and don't come back." Hall did return home and has repeatedly sought to return to United.

Chicago is the home base of United so Hall has had a direct opportunity to confront the company on the non-employment of people with AIDS. The United Medical Director, Dr. Gary Kohn, agreed to cooperate with the Illinois Human Rights Com-



Gar Traynor (r.) with his lover

mission after Hall contacted the commission, and agreed to find Hall a position with United. So far, neither Hall nor Traynor have been offered a job.

While no United employee has been formally dismissed, those with AIDS who are on medical leave receive no pay. Medical coverage is continued "up to 7 years" under the union contract.

United has stated it does "not believe people with AIDS could work 70-80 hours a month" required of Flight Attendants. Traynor told this reporter, "I have good stamina. My energy level is high and I keep busy every day." Two of his activities have been serving on Mayor Tom Bradley's AIDS advisory

cont. on next page

Unpaid Bills Cancel Reno Gay Rodeo

Fundamentalists Whoop It Up As Officials Seek Organizers

by Allen White

After nine years, the Reno Gay Rodeo may have bucked its last bronco. Phil Ragsdale, rodeo organizer, owes the Nevada State Fair, Inc. \$7,530 from the 1984 event. Until he comes up with the money he won't be putting on a rodeo in Reno.

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IN THIS ISSUE

JUDGE WILL RULE PROMPTLY on closure of Gay Bathhouses. Judge Roy Wonder heard medical, civil rights testimony in two-hour hearing Wednesday, but clubs stay closed for now. George Mendenhall on page 3.

THIRD SUSPECT IS ARRESTED in murders of two Polk Street area teenagers. Homicide inspector calls suspect's statement "most gruesome" he's ever heard. Allen White on page 5.

AIDS IS ATTACKING OUR PSYCHES as well as our health. Gay psychotherapists talk about what the epidemic is doing to our spirits and outlook. Marv. Shaw on page 14.

SELF DEFENSE BUILDS SELF CONFIDENCE for women, says a black belt in karate. Charlie Linebarger explores the technique and the philosophies behind it in Sports and Fitness, page 28.

A Night in Budapest's Baths

cont. from page 1

by men, but that she was carrying on her arm a basketful of cabbages and cauliflowers. Now baskets I had expected—but not full of green veggies. Across the floor strode a flock of Greek Orthodox priests in full church drag, including heavy-duty jewelry and floor length gowns.

"Let's see Sister Mary Ignatius explain this all for me," I thought.

This place had everyone but the Marx Brothers. Pink Floyd and Prince would have gone unnoticed. It seemed possible that the Ottoman Turks might be invading, just like they did in the 13th Century. With this promising thought in mind, I sat down in the lobby to get the lay of the land, in a manner of speaking.

Around the atrium was a series of shops, the first one selling lottery tickets. Apparently there is some sort of Slavic logic here that escapes me, but I had to admit they are ahead of California at this point. The next space was a snack bar featuring Faggylait, which I translated into Milk of the Faggot. This turned out to be what is known locally as ice cream.

HUNGARIAN DRAG

Next came a souvenir shop showing hand-embroidered blouses and skirts, as well as lace headpieces starched into Smokey the Bear hats. Another stall was a book store that included a group of American titles like the *Life and Social Philosophy of Franklin D. Roosevelt*. Now who in his right mind goes to the baths to find hand-made peasant drag or read academic political history? It seemed the Hungarians do, but then the Hungarians are delightfully and charmingly not in their right minds.

Signs were posted every where in Hungarian, Russian, and German, I guess this is one of the few places in the world outside of Brooklyn where English is not spoken. Since my knowledge of those three languages is mostly confined to goulash, nyet, and Heil Hitler, I wasn't going to get anywhere with a simple, imperative question like, "Which way to the orgy room?"

Onward, anyhow. I entered one of the male dominated tunnels and wandered around like Orpheus in the Underworld, trying not to look back. Eventually I came upon an attendant, a person of the female persuasion, and by sign language managed to get a room, which was merely a stand up cubicle for changing and without a bed. No bed? Definitely Nyet.

I also acquired a towel with the absorbency of pink tulle and a high-waisted swimming suit with five-inch legs. Ronald Reagan would have loved it.

After changing, I emerged and she locked the door, keeping the key. Thought of missing passport, visa, and traveler's cheques came to mind with this informal approach to security. But she just laughed, patted me in a place where I am unaccustomed to having women pat me, and disappeared into a neighboring dungeon. "Right freeway, wrong direction?" I wondered to myself.

THE SWIMMING POOL

Next came the oversized pool with a good quota of attractive men therein. It also had its share of women and children. Not to be put off by gender integration, I plunged in only to discover that it was the Middle European tributary of a polar ice cap. You just haven't seen The Big Chill till you've gone through this Budapest experience.

Commandeering the pool was a life guard who might have been 86'd from Maud's for excessive macho-ness. She stalked, glared, and blew the whistle on any infraction of the rules: swimming in the wrong direction, going counterclockwise, or just stopping in mid-pool. No one dared fart under water or she'd have seen the bubbles rise to the surface. Cruising, much less man to man contact, was out of the question. You would have had to be drowning just to establish eye contact.

OUT OF THE WATER CLOSET

When all else fails, retreat to the W.C. as it is still called, and

give it the 20 minute Y.M.C.A. test: five minutes at the urinal and 15 minutes in the shower, all the while using significant body language. The main thing that this tactic achieved for me was to get warm. Finally, however, a young man did turn around in his stall and begin the ritualized crotch wash in my direction. Ah Ha. At last, the universal language of Gay life.

At this moment a string of giggling pre-teen schoolgirls raced into the room, realized their mistake, whooped, squealed, hooted, and pushed each other back into the hallway—except for one little tyke, who slipped on some soap, skidded across the floor and landed at the feet of my man of the moment. He did the fastest wilt in Gay History and took off down a dark stairway, leaving his trunks hanging in the running shower. I never saw him again.

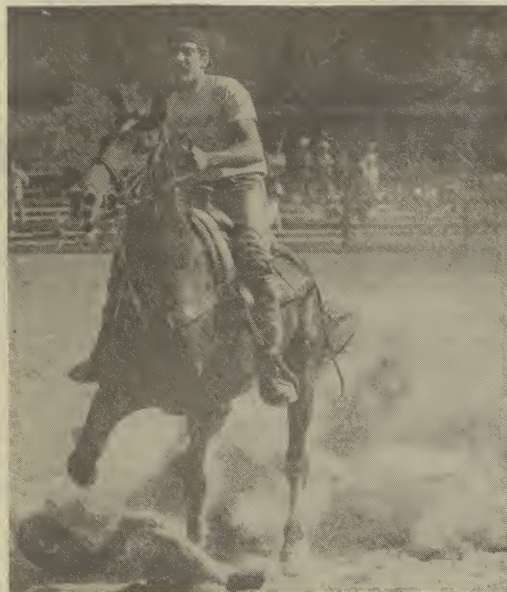
Back in the hotel room I dug out my bettered and coverless Spartacus Guide, which I had borrowed from a dear, dear friend. Yes, the time and place were right, but on looking through the introduction pages, I noticed that this was the 1973 edition. Well! No wonder that bitch lent it out without a deposit.

So much for Old World decadence, Byzantine intrigue, and all those wild Hungarian men who have moved on to greener pastures. That crowd currently at the Gellert certainly has not heard of safe sex. In fact they haven't heard of any kind of sex at the baths. Talk about perversion.

Continuing the dedicated search for a meaningful one night stand, I moved on to Prague, where I was delighted to find that the only known Gay bar is located on Jungmannstrasse, the most active tea room in Central Europe is on Male Square, and the country's military history and weapons are presented to the public at the Muzeum de Dyke.

You don't believe me? Don't take my word for it. Czech it out yourself.

Woolly



Red Ink Rodeo. Officials in Reno say they're not horsing around—either the bill gets paid or there's no '85 rodeo. (Photo: Rink)

Rodeo on the Ropes

cont. from page 1

Fundamentalist religious groups were whooping it up like it was victory time around the old campfire. The rodeo has been the target of a Nevada group called the "Pro Family Christian Coalition." The group's chairman, Dan Hansen, has been trying to get enough signatures to ban the use of public property by Ragsdale for years. Hansen reportedly said, "We think it's a godsend. We don't want Reno to be known as a Gay satellite of San Francisco—a fairyland of the West."

Hansen, however, may be in for a surprise. Howard Reynolds, the Assistant County Manager, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that if Ragsdale pays off his old bill of \$7,530, he can rent the rodeo grounds and put on a Gay rodeo.

The immediate problem has been contacting Ragsdale. Reynolds said the county has sent him several letters requesting payment. Fair President Tom Engelman said the fair "plans no further business" with rodeo organizer Phil Ragsdale. "We have not been able to trace Ragsdale. There are changes of address, phone numbers are not current. We have no indication they have any intention to pay."

To assume the Gay Rodeo is

ending its run is overlooking the tremendous impact the event has on the Reno tourist industry. The rodeo has been reported to be the third largest annual tourist attraction in the city. \$7,530 is not that much in investment money and many speculate that there will indeed be a 1985 Reno Gay Rodeo. It may have a different name, maybe a different date, but it will probably take place.

Last year, attendance slipped at the event for several reasons. Blame was laid to AIDS, the Democratic Convention in San Francisco and the Olympics in Los Angeles. The rodeo has also received strong criticism for mismanagement.

Thousands go to Reno for the weekend to join in the Gay festivities and never even go to the rodeo. Each year dozens of chartered busses leave from San Francisco and several chartered planes fly in from places as diverse as Houston and Los Angeles.

The dates usually reserved for the Gay rodeo have been reserved by another event. But the Wassau County Assistant Manager, Howard Reynolds, was firm in stating that there was no reason a Gay rodeo could not be held on another date once the debt is paid.

A. White

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By Appointment Only

Unfriendly Skies

cont. from page 1

group and as co-chair of the L.A. Shanti board.

Traynor and his lover are moving to San Francisco this week where he will continue as an activist here, defending the rights of people with AIDS. He will continue to work with the L.A. Flight Attendants union, which has been processing his grievance with United. There was a Union arbitration hearing on June 20, 1984. Traynor believes the company is delaying the hearing decision. The activist's attorney is ready to serve United with a \$20 million civil lawsuit if the hearing decision is unfavorable. Hall is not considering legal action at this time as he is hopeful of being eventually re-hired by United.

Lorenzini was himself dismissed by his East Bay employer three days before Christmas in 1983, after he told him that he had AIDS. He explains that the United boycott could be the

beginning of an emphatic statement that employers cannot arbitrarily displace workers with AIDS or AIDS symptoms.

"I feel that we have to deal more aggressively with these incidents," Lorenzini said. "As the alternative is to offer no resistance to the firing of all potential people with AIDS. It is enough that we have a life-threatening disease without the added burden of having our employment abused."

"I hope that the Gay community will support us by finding other airline arrangements until United is more humanitarian in dealing with this health crisis. United is only one example of what is happening. People with AIDS are being forced to lie about their health in order to retain positions. It is important to begin now to stem this trend by making United accountable."

G. Mendenhall

Judge to Rule 'Promptly' On Bathhouse Closings

**Roy Wonder Hears Medical, Civil Rights Arguments
In Two-Hour Hearing; Clubs Stay Closed for Now**

by George Mendenhall

Superior Court Judge Roy Wonder yesterday promised a "prompt" decision on whether he will make permanent a temporary injunction closing nine bathhouses and sex clubs, pending trial. Eighty bathhouse patrons, bath and club owners and a large press corps heard 13 attorneys debate the issues involved before Wonder on Wednesday. The only outburst came when one Gay activist called out "Homophobia" after City Attorney Phillip Ward made one emotional statement.

Ward had insisted the Gay clubs and baths "are promoting and facilitating the spread of disease . . . we are doing the same as trying to regulate a person who is trying to jump off the Golden Gate Bridge—not just watching the person jump off. We do not provide such a person with a ladder and waterwings and then take a picture of him as he jumps." A relaxed Judge Wonder asked for a moment's silence after the word "Homophobia" was shouted out "so we can calm down."

The Committee to Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties sponsored a protest demonstration on the steps of City Hall before the hearing opened. Fifty people chanted "Open the Baths—Defend Our Civil Rights" and carried placards that read "Stop the Sex Police" and "Keep the City Out of Our Sex Lives." Randy Stallings, committee chair, distributed a statement from the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights decrying the action by Silverman.

Wonder listened attentively as defense attorneys discussed alternatives to closing the businesses—the closure of common areas outside of rooms, the posting of a judge's order prohibiting "unsafe" sex, reasonable inspection by health officials, additional video informational films, more educational materials and the employment of additional supervisory personnel by owners.

Attorneys said they were willing to cooperate with guidelines furnished by the AIDS Foundation. Wonder asked the City Attorney to respond to that suggestion on an unspecified date.

DEFENSE RESPONDS

Club attorneys pleaded that there had been "prior restraint" in Silverman's sudden 2-hour notice closures. They said due process of law had been violated as they were not permitted public hearings or an opportunity to respond to the arguments for closure. There was not a discussion of the specific sex acts that

The judge wondered if there were any alternatives to actual closure.

Silverman's sex spies had recorded. There was a claim that very few "unsafe" acts were used as the basis for the closure.

Attorney Tom Steel, representing bathhouses, pleaded that Silverman did not have the power to regulate conduct—but only unhealthy conditions related to the premises itself. He pointed to the fact that the city is not closing the thousands of other places where sex is also taking place.

Attorney Duke Armstrong, representing sex clubs, said there had been a breakdown in communication between Silverman and Gay business owners. He said that there could have been public hearings and a consideration of preserving the rights of all involved.

The defense attorneys urged that the city did not act with "strict scrutiny" which is a necessary legal standard for closure. They insisted that the city has not proved that the closure will have an effect on halting the spread of AIDS—that the remedy of closing some businesses does not effectively resolve the problem.

How "promptly" Wonder will make his decision could not be determined in the questioning of attorneys. Wonder is a married Republican. The judge expressed special concern during the hearing as to whether there might be some alternative to actual closure—but the City Attorney remained adamant there was none. Silverman did not attend the two-hour court session.

Superior Court Judge William Mullin had granted a Temporary Restraining Order Oct. 15 which shut nine Gay bathhouses and sex clubs. The ruling came after Public Health Director Mervyn Silverman had placed secret investigators on the premises of 30 sex-related businesses, reviewed their reports, and ordered 14 clubs to close. The city later approved \$50,000, retroactively, for the spying operation.

Businesses closed were the Academy, Animals, the Club Baths, Club San Francisco, Jack's Turkish Bath, SF Health Club, The Slot, and 21st Street Baths. Three bookstores (Discount, Folsom Gulch, Jaguar) and two theaters (Savages, Team Room), which had been ordered closed by Silverman on Oct. 9, were permitted to stay open with restrictions on some areas where people might congregate.

BATHHOUSE PATRONS

Six Gay men were permitted

to intervene in the bathhouse defense Nov. 6. Judge Wonder ruled that Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF) could submit arguments for keeping the businesses open in the interest of the former patrons of the businesses. BALIF is the Lesbian and Gay legal association of the Bay Area, with nearly 400 members.

Bathhouse patrons who intervened are Douglas Warner, President of the Gay Rights Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union; Robert McAdams, owner of San Francisco Eagle; Dr. David Lourea, a sex researcher; William Ingersoll, writer; Wayne Goodman, law office employee; and Mark Mahan, an accountant.

The men claimed that they frequented bathhouses. In a joint statement they claimed, "The city's action is not only unwarranted, and unlikely to reduce the risk or the spread of AIDS, but will establish a dangerous precedent for government's authority to regulate the constitutionally-protected activities of all citizens."

"These bathhouses are valuable institutions in the Gay community," the ACLU's Warner told a press conference last week, "because they provide clean, comfortable and safe places for Gay men in San Francisco to associate freely with each other, in a world where hostility toward the expression of affection and intimacy among men is commonplace."

Dr. Lourea added, "Private sex clubs and bathhouses have proved to be particularly well-suited for safe sex education efforts—as the Health Department itself has acknowledged, and as I have seen from the workshops I have conducted in these establishments."

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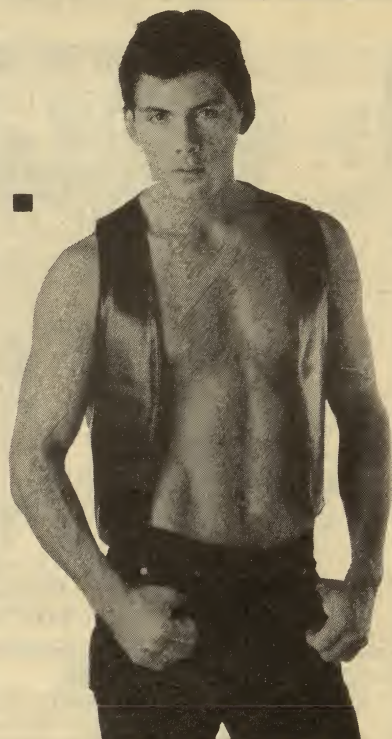
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By DR. RICK PETTIT

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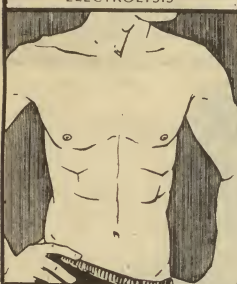
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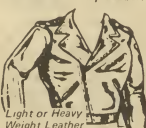
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New Computer Solves Old Murder

But No Suspect In 1977 Murder of Bobby Kerns

by George Mendenhall

Lt. Tom Murphy, who heads the San Francisco Police crime lab, made a startling discovery this week. When running fingerprints from unsolved homicides through the city's new fingerprint computer, he discovered the likely murderer in the Oct. 30, 1977 slaying of a popular Gay personality, Bobby Kerns. But there was a twist of fate: The suspect, William Rook, was himself murdered three years ago on Nov. 13, 1981.

Five hundred people attended Kern's funeral. He had many friends who knew him as a waiter at the Grubsteak restaurant, manager of the Nelli Deli at Dave's Baths, and as manager of the Wild Goose bar.

Mr. Marcus, Bay Area Reporter columnist, recalls that he and Kerns were lovers for some time. The victim was the Crown Prince in Marcus' imperial court. They had met when the columnist managed the Boot Camp. They were considering living together when Kerns was murdered.

Suspect Rook was shot in the head in his 1981 slaying as he sat in his car near Kezar Stadium. Officer Frank McCoy, who investigated that crime, said no suspect was found. He added that it would be improper for him to give BAR information about Rook.

Kerns had evidently left Gus' Pub, on Haight Street, where he worked, the night before Halloween in 1977. He was seen with two men who entered Kerns' car. His body was discovered by his roommate. Kerns had been stabbed 11 times.

Investigating officers discovered fingerprints near Kern's body. Officer Murphy explained this week that police were unable to trace them at that time because there was no fingerprint computer. He said, "When you are dealing with ten million sets times ten it is impossible to find a partial print."

McCoy said, "The lieutenant checked out hundreds of prints until he discovered the Rook match." Lt. Murphy said the \$1.4 million computer has been a great success since its installation Feb. 27. Since then the department has been able to identify 724 suspects, including 40 involved in homicides. He said fortunately there is no statute of limitation on murders. Within the month, all fingerprints found in past homicide cases will have been checked. ■

Sex on Parade: Nation Goes Kinky

Survey Finds Sex Lib Cuts Across Social Classes

by George Mendenhall

"Homosexuals may not be as aroused at traditional foreplay (Kissing, hugging and touching) as heterosexuals are," according to a national survey of 1,100 single and married people. The Sunday supplement, *Parade*, concluded. "Homosexuals are more likely to be aroused by extremely erotic behavior." Eleven percent of those questioned said they had homosexual experiences.

The analysis failed to survey the apparent recent trend in the Gay male community toward increased body contact and masturbation in the light of the AIDS crisis. It arbitrarily established eight categories of sexual activity rather than compare singles vs. marrieds, as is often done in sex surveys. The surprising conclusion was that there was no significant differences in sexual practices between marrieds and singles or between people as to age, income, politics, or religious preference.

"Old values," *Parade* revealed, "now face new challenges: traditional ideas of what constitutes normal and abnormal sexual behavior are no longer universally accepted. . . Our survey found no single style predominates — that is, there is no typical way to have sex. . . The happiest people are those that take sex in many forms."

Dr. Wardell Pomeroy, co-author of the famous "Kinsey Report" was correct, the October 28 article in *Parade* stated, when he concluded "there is no normal way of sex, just different ways."

SEXUAL VARIETY

The happiest people sexually, *Parade* revealed, are those who experience considerable sexual freedom — the "pansexuals." These are people who believe they are good lovers, find it easy to talk about sex, enjoy pornography, have erotic fantasies and enjoy oral sex. They also masturbate often and consider sex very important. This group has frequent sex and is generally happy with all aspects of life. Those in the pansexual category are 55 percent men, 45 percent women.

Sexual researcher Dr. Carol Flax, a New York University associate professor, conducted the national survey for *Parade*. She concluded that there are three types of "erotic" people — satisfied, unsatisfied and lonely. The satisfied and lonely are

70 percent male, 30 percent female.

"Satisfieds" are happy about their sex lives but are more selective about what they need to complete the sex act, and they resist foreplay. While the satisfieds are happy with life the unsatisfied are not. This latter category is equally divided between men and women.

"Unsatisfieds" consider sex important but primarily masturbate while alone and may like sex with others "but cannot get it."

The lonely erotics are 73 percent male, 27 percent women. They respond more often to pornography and have difficulty forming relationships. They primarily masturbate and avoid foreplay. They are generally unhappy with life and dislike their bodies.

Dr. Flax said she discovered there are two "sensualist" types — those who are satisfied and unsatisfied. The "Satisfieds" are couples who like to snuggle and enjoy foreplay leading into erotic sex but avoid such things as fantasy and pornography. They rarely masturbate. They are almost equally divided between women and men.

The "Unsatisfieds" have the same desires as the satisfied but lack partners. They have a low sex drive and generally consider sex to be unimportant.

SEXUAL CONSERVATIVES

The researcher explained that there are also sexual conservatives and nonsexuals — 68 percent of women, 33 percent of the men in this category. Almost all of the conservatives are heterosexual and married. They are concerned with completion of the sex act but not with foreplay or prolonging the experience.

"Nonsexuals" — those expressing no interest in sex — said they were generally unhappy and not aroused. In this category, 68 percent were women, and 32 percent were

men.

Parade concluded that once a person establishes a sexual pattern it continues through life and is not changed by age. The magazine added, "neither religious devotion, nor marital status, nor political leaning powerfully influences how you take your sex, although each may exert some influence."

One out of each seven surveyed said they had sexual problems — women were most troubled with sexual incompatability with partners, difficulty in reaching orgasm and a low sex drive. Men were most troubled with impotence, feeling sexually inadequate, and a low sex drive.

Age was a factor in the survey in that considerably more people who were identified as erotic or sensual were under 40. Unsatisfied sensualists had a significantly lower income than satisfied erotics. Sexual conservatives were generally also conservative in politics and religion. Nonsexuals were high in being religiously devout. ■

First Lesbian/Gay Suicide Conference In San Francisco

San Francisco Suicide Prevention is sponsoring a one-day conference on Lesbian and Gay suicide, Saturday, Dec. 8, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church in San Francisco. Eric Rofes, author of the book, *I Thought People Like That Killed Themselves: Lesbians, Gay Men and Suicide*, a teacher and a writer who has received national recognition as an expert on this topic, will be the keynote speaker. There will be panel discussions and workshops on suicide and Gay men, Gay/Lesbian youth, the aging homosexual, the impact of AIDS on the Gay community, suicide among Lesbians, and clinical issues and concerns related to Gay/Lesbian suicide.

The registration deadline is Nov. 28. For more information, please call San Francisco Suicide Prevention during business hours at 752-4866. ■

Dan White Prosecutor Removed From Gay Case

Third Suspect is Arrested in Murders of 2 Polk St. Teens

by Allen White

Assistant District Attorney Tom Norman has been removed from prosecuting the murder case against William Melvin White. White had recently been charged with killing and then dismembering Larry (Ozzie) Gaines at Land's End last May. He also has admitted killing another young man, Ted Gomez. Both were known to hang around in the Polk Street area.

Inspector Frank Falzon, who has been working from the first report of the case announced that a third suspect has been captured in connection with the murder.

The suspect was identified as David Murdoch, 18, said by police to be a Polk Street area hustler and a former lover of William Melvin White's. Murdoch was arrested over the weekend in Seattle and is charged with murder.

Homicide Inspector Falzon said he interviewed Murdoch for four hours on Monday, Nov. 12. Falzon would not discuss details of the interview, but he characterized it "as the most gruesome information I have ever taken in my entire career."

Police canvassed the Polk Street area, talking to hustlers and other street habitués in the past three weeks. Information picked up on the street indicated the third suspect in the Gomez-Gaines murders had fled to San Diego, Los Angeles or Seattle.

San Francisco Police sent fliers describing the suspect to all three cities, and Seattle Police subsequently arrested Murdoch.

Meanwhile, District Attorney Arlo Smith was announcing the reassignment of the Gomez-Gaines murder case. Smith gave the official reason for prosecutor Tom Norman's removal as the need to follow up on other cases which are going to appeal courts. However, the announcement came as Norman was having legal problems of his own.

Tom Norman was arrested Oct. 17 on Taraval Street for drunk driving. Norman pleaded no contest to the charge. The drunk driving charge—Norman's second—might not, of itself, have resulted in the removal of Norman from the case.

Circumstance plays strange

Alice Links Feinstein, Falwell In Endorsing Baths Protests

The Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club voted Monday night to endorse literature coupling the personal moral beliefs of Mayor Dianne Feinstein with Jerry Falwell. The literature was part of a package vote to endorse and financially support the Committee to Preserve Our Sexual and Civil Liberties.

The text of the literature includes the statement, "Unfortunately, the medical crisis has been transformed into a political battleground by Dianne Feinstein, who apparently believes as Jerry Falwell does, that her personal morality should be imposed on the general public."

The original resolution called for the club to endorse a picket yesterday which protested the closing of the baths.

What followed was an amendment to endorse the organization by the Alice club. Midway through the debate someone singled out the anti-Feinstein remark in the group's brochure. A vote for the sexual liberty group suddenly became a vote against the Mayor.

The vote came. After the voice vote President Sal Roselli, recently appointed by the Mayor to the Human Rights Commission, said the issue had lost. Someone then called for a show of hands to count the vote.

By a 16-15 vote, the club officially reiterated its stand against the closing of the baths—and linked Jerry Falwell and Dianne Feinstein on a moral issue.

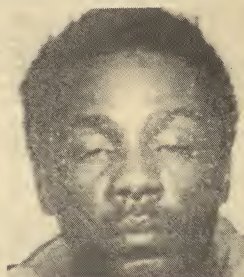
Allen White



Larry (Ozzie) Gaines



Ted Gomez



William Melvin White

twists and the District Attorney is fully aware that Tom Norman was the prosecutor of Dan White for the assassination of Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone in 1978. These current murders are high-profile murders, especially in the Gay community, and District Attorney Arlo Smith has stated that he wants William Melvin White prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. That means the death sentence.

The apprehension of the third suspect by police should give the prosecution a solid case. Gay District Attorney Investigator Ron Huberman praised Falzon and Homicide Investigator Herman Clark for their work on the case.

Huberman noted that the solving of this crime had been a team effort. The homicide investigators made several trips into the Polk Street-area and their presence was so noticeable that people being interviewed by the Bay Area Reporter were being given police department business cards from the homicide bureau.

It was the homicide bureau which had the grizzly task of going through the Land's End area sifting through the sand to find the dismembered parts of the murder victim.

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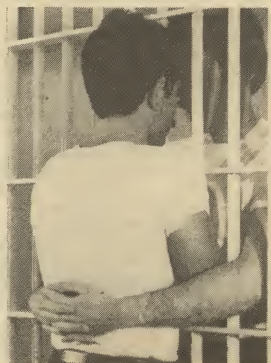
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VIEWPOINT

LETTERS

Star-gazing

People strive to see patterns in scattered bits of information. Shepherds 5,000 years ago looked into the night sky and imagined shapes in the stars. They saw images of their gods in the constellations.

The aftermath of an election is an occasion for modern star-gazing. Commentators and columnists look at twinkling dots on computer terminals to see what is new in the political universe. The result of this exercise often is interesting and sometimes is useful. But mostly, it creates a new mythology. Our modern opinion-makers are shepherds on hilltops.

And so we come to the question inevitably raised by the first Tuesday in November in America. What does it mean?

Our answer: Not a lot. There is no new grand alignment of political forces in the land. The United States, which never went liberal, has not gone right-wing. Americans prefer to steer the sedan of state right down the middle of the road, swerving only for potholes.

The Democratic Party is not dead. It's not even in bad shape. Hard-core political junkies will remember the cover of *Newsweek* in November 1964 which posed the question, "Is the Republican Party Dead?" The debacle of Sen. Barry Goldwater's defeat at the hands of Landslide Lyndon doomed the Grand Old Party, or so said the pundits. They were just shepherds on hill tops, as the 1968 election showed.

The truth is, challengers to incumbent presidents almost always do poorly and sometimes do very poorly. We can look at Stevenson vs. Eisenhower in 1956, Goldwater vs. Johnson in 1964, and McGovern vs. Nixon in 1968 for just a few examples. American history is full of many more such examples. While the electoral totals eked out by those also-rans were not as tiny as that garnered by Walter Mondale, the fact is that Mondale won a percentage of the popular vote greater than several similar challengers have in the past. So we needn't overrate the importance of Walter Mondale's defeat.

Nor should we overrate the importance of Ronald Reagan's victory. Here again, we learned something old. That is: The nation votes for the image, not the platform. Reagan is long on the first and short on the second. We have been electing presidents this way at least since the Second World War, and perhaps since the Revolutionary War. War heroes have always been popular and have become president seven times, most recently in the election of Dwight Eisenhower. Kennedy squeaked by Nixon in 1960 because Kennedy had that slick sixties image. Johnson painted Goldwater as a war-monger, then used the 1964 landslide as a mandate to invade Indochina. So much for the connection between image and platform.

The New Nixon in 1968 is the exception which proves the rule. Having no saleable image of his own, Nixon hired a crew of PR experts to create one. It worked, as the book, *The Selling of the President*, has documented. In 1976 we elected a Man of the People, a dirt farmer. Jimmy Carter just happened to be a millionaire.

And then there was Reagan.

Reagan has that Presidential Image. His election and re-election bring the image of power and the power of image full-circle in presidential politics. Here is a man who seemed more presidential than the president, and so won the 1980 election. Here is a man who seems powerful, and so power accrues to him. The White House, like so much of American life, has become a reflection out of *Alice Through the Looking Glass*, a place where things happen because they appear to.

But there is still a real public life going on outside the shine of the television klieg lights. The reality is, Ronald Reagan may as well be a Missouri Democrat. It is that reality, at work behind the image, which will shape the next four years.

Next Week: The limits of Reaganism.

Brian Jones

AIDS \$\$ Delay

★ Your Nov. 8 issue carried a front-page article about the San Francisco Board of Supervisors first-reading approval of a request from the Department of Public Health for \$2.4 million in supplemental funds for AIDS-related services. In the article, *Bay Area Reporter* News Editor Brian Jones insinuates that the Mayor may have delayed consideration of the request for reasons related to what Jones calls "the bathhouse battle."

As the person in the Department of Public Health who was responsible for processing AIDS Supplemental proposals within the Department and for assembling the formal document which supported Dr. Silverman's request to the Mayor, I can attest to the fact that, contrary to Mr. Jones' suggestion, the Mayor and her staff were extremely cooperative and efficient in their handling of this request.

Dr. Silverman submitted the request package to the Mayor Oct. 17; the Mayor sent her message to the Board of Supervisors Oct. 24. Analysis of the request was given very high priority by the Mayor and her staff. The turnaround time for their consideration of the detailed proposals was very short.

The Board of Supervisors' budget analyst, the Finance Committee, and the full Board were equally helpful and as committed as the Mayor to processing the AIDS Supplemental quickly.

It is true that the Department hoped to have the request package fully assembled earlier in the year. However, some service providers were unexpectedly slow in developing their proposals to the Department and in articulating justification for them. Each of these situations contributed to the delay. The Mayor did not.

Jeffery Amory
AIDS Activity Office
SF Dept. of Public Health

ED. NOTE: We would like to know who the "service providers" you mention are, and would like to interview them on this question. We conducted inquiries regarding three of the larger providers. Their message to us was that the delay was in City Hall or at the Health Department.

We do know that at the Sept. 25 secret meeting called by the Mayor and held in her office, both the AIDS supplemental budget and the bathhouses were discussed. It was not we who linked those issues, but the Mayor. A number of the "service providers" you refer to were present—specifically, doctors from San Francisco General Hospital.

As long as the details of the Sept. 25 meeting in the Mayor's office remain secret, there will be valid questions on this score.

Brian Jones

Beyond Belief

★ It's beyond belief! In your Nov. 1 issue you run a front-page article on Pat Norman chronicling her consistent good works for the Gay community, especially in lobbying for AIDS funding and her excellent progressive record as a whole. Then you turn around and in your election endorsements you not only fail to endorse Pat Norman, you endorse the most homophobic incumbent on the entire Board of Supervisors, Quentin Kopp!

Right there in Wayne Friday's political column it's revealed that Kopp voted against Domestic Partners legislation, Hongisto's anti-bias bill, the Jaguar bookstore permit, the Commission on the Status of Women, the street closure for the Castro Street Fair, the certificate of honor for Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, and that he has been censured by all three Gay Democratic clubs for his comments to *The New York Times* expressing revulsion toward the Gay community.

At a time when the Gay community is trying to stop

Kopp from gaining the Presidency of the Board of Supervisors in a tight race with pro-Gay Molinari, your endorsement of Kopp is not only completely illogical in light of the information published in your own paper, but is a disgusting betrayal of your readers who depend on your paper for informed political endorsements.

You've already had to apologize for your "mistake" in declaring Kopp had voted favorably on every piece of pro-Gay legislation before the Board of Supervisors, a lie Kopp is still using in his campaign.

Now you owe your readers an explanation of your endorsement of this homophobic Supervisor.

We already have the civil rights crisis of bathhouse closure, Dan White's imminent return to San Francisco, Reagan's probable reelection and increasing anti-Gay violence to deal with. We don't need our city's main Gay newspaper swinging to the right as well!

Jerry Berbian
San Francisco

Why?

★ You have endorsed the candidacy of Quentin Kopp! Your resume of candidates did not list any reason for Kopp's endorsement! Why? Why? Why?

We believe you owe your readers an explanation for this endorsement!

Lester J. Smith
San Francisco

Shock and Disgust

★ I cannot begin to express my shock and disgust over your endorsement of Quentin Kopp for the Board of Supervisors. Kopp has repeatedly shown himself to be no friend of the Gay community. There were several candidates whose stand on Gay rights were far superior to Kopp's.

When Deukmejian vetoed AB-1, you were quick to decry that. Kopp is no better. Politicians who do not support Gay rights, and whose records bears that out, should not be endorsed by Gay publications. For a paper that styles itself the voice of the Gay community, you have seriously undermined your own credibility.

John Veldkamp
San Francisco

Thanks From the River

★ The River AIDS Support Group wishes to thank River Community Services, Everetts of San Francisco Barber Shop, and River City Real Estate for the use of their facilities, and the community at large for their wonderful support in making our first Rummage Sale held Oct. 27 and 28 such a fine success. We wish also to take this opportunity to thank all those who donated the fine items that were so well received. Please note—we will have a repeat of our Rummage Sale in December, and hope we may again be supported by you all.

River AIDS Support Group
Guerneville

Letter Policy

★ The *Bay Area Reporter* welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters must be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter — this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

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LETTERS

Dear YMCA

The following letter was sent to the YMCA in response to actions recently taken by their staff. From conversations that I had with several staff members, the actions described were taken as a reaction to threats made to the YMCA by the Department of Public Health to close certain facilities used by Gay men. It was my understanding that agents of the Health Department have been "observing" interactive behavior of men in the locker room and adjacent facilities.

★ This is in response to the closing of the steam room and sauna at the Golden Gate YMCA this week, and to the installation of "monitors" in the Men's Locker Room. I strongly object to these actions for several reasons.

It is my understanding that the facilities were closed because of incidents of homosexual activity. Although I don't doubt that such activity exists, I have not participated in nor have I witnessed such since becoming a member of the YMCA in January 1983. I presumed that the YMCA staff was dealing with violators in accordance with regulations.

If the temporary closing of the steam and sauna at the YMCA were to occur in a less threatening atmosphere, I may tolerate the action. But the closure is not happening in a vacuum. Many of us are aware that the San Francisco Health Department is conducting aggressive, covert city-wide operations to outlaw male homosexual activity. This is part of a policy of deliberate harassment of businesses and services in San Francisco that cater to the Gay populace.

For the YMCA to succumb to the inappropriate directives of the Health Department is to collaborate with the growing interference of government into private lives and personal choice. Furthermore, the subsequent installation of YMCA staff "spies" in the Men's Locker Room makes the YMCA an intrinsic agent of a city department which is presently abusing its authority.

I have no particular problem with the YMCA's efforts to curtail sexual activity in the common facilities. It's rude, in the least. Increased sexual activity at the "Y," however, seems to indicate that closure of the baths is certainly frustrating sexual contacts and that, indeed, men are moving to other locations to find them.

That the Health Department is pursuing a policy of "spying" should not be surprising. The department has adopted an attitude that abandons consideration of civil liberty and has established, in effect, a secret police. Under the aegis of "maintaining the public health," Dr. Silverman and his cohorts are blatantly abusing their authority to inhibit the behavior of a chosen sector of the general population.

This is a classic case of tyranny. And tyranny is not abated until it is met with a power greater than its own. For this reason, I believe that Silverman, Feinstein, et al will further their investigations, threats, and arrests unless they can be stopped by a united opposition.

David Kline
San Francisco

A Hell of a Dude

★ The personal response that I have received from the articles on the demise of Larry Gaines, which was a very personal loss, and the end of the "wooding of Coors," which was anticlimatic, has been overwhelming.

There seems no other or better way to thank the many people who offered their sympathy, as most read about it in the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Larry was "a hell of a dude," and had many friends from each affectional preference, and it is from here that we must go on.

Larry Gaines and Ted Gomez will not have lived or died in vain as long as there are people who are willing to "come together over it," and pursue changes that will protect those who ultimately have to fend for themselves.

I have asked all interested persons to contact the Larkin Street Youth Center and volunteer their time or service. Larkin Street Youth Center, 1040 Larkin Street at Sutter, SF, CA 94109. (415) 673-0911.

Wayne Smith
Polk Street Town Hall
San Francisco

Astonished

★ I was astonished at the letters favoring bathhouse closure from Lion Barnett and Rob Roy Woodman. For Mr. Woodman to suggest that Gay men have not been responsible does not make sense when one considers that rectal gonorrhea rates are down over 70 percent in three years. Furthermore, the average number of sexual contacts per person per visit at the bathhouses had dropped to .6, according to one study! Is closing the bathhouses the reward we get for making, as Dr. Silverman himself said, "the most incredible changes I've ever seen in any group of individuals?"

Mr. Barnett calls the civil liberties issue "pathetic nonsense." Does he know about increased police harassment since the baths were closed? Does he know about Dallas Doctors Against AIDS, which filed a brief that supported retention of Texas sodomy laws and cited AIDS as the reason? Does he know that the only person more vehement about closing the baths than Dianne Feinstein was Jerry Falwell? Was he around when San Francisco Gay and Lesbian bars were routinely closed by the police?

The key issue for those concerned with health is safe sex. It doesn't matter if it's in a home, a bathroom, or in the bushes. It doesn't matter if it's one contact or several hundred. If you only have safe sex, you won't risk further exposure to AIDS. How can we as a community allow Dr. Silverman to deflect us from that all-important message?

I urge the community to unite on this issue. It is not just for bathhouse patrons, owners, and employees. The issue has long-range implications for all of us.

Timothy M. Brace
San Francisco

Present Standards

★ The Fire and Police Departments of the city of San Francisco, consummately represented to the world by assassin Dan White that romantic role model to rookies of both agencies, quite confidently continues to be offensively homophobic with the irresponsible blessings of an insular mayor.

Week after week, month after month, the global community reads our daily and buy press, while San Franciscans witness the local media and personally experience with horror the increasing incidents of brazen inhumanity wrought upon local Gays by invariably young firemen and police officers.

Present standards for these highly skilled and highly paid professionals are just not acceptable, and we must demand an immediate, unqualified accounting by those who currently seek election to public office.

Charles Harris
San Francisco

I Have a Dream

★ I have a dream, just as Martin Luther King did, that Gay people will be freer than any other people have ever been. In my dream we shall be so free that we'll neither seek nor receive special favors from any agency; that we shall lead all our fellow citizens in demanding our personal liberty; that as a community we shall be self-sufficient.

In my dream we'll recognize each other's unique abilities and achievements; encourage the free and voluntary exchange of goods and services; rely on our selves rather than handouts. The politicians will be our dependents—not we theirs—because we shall demand only their integrity.

My dream is a little different. It is actually coming true, and I'm proud to be part of it.

Edward J. Conley
San Francisco

We Need Two

★ Correcting an error after the election seems almost moot when any damage may already have been done. Too bad the *Bay Area Reporter* is not a daily—then errors might be caught in a more timely fashion.

I was quoted (name misspelled) at a bathhouse/civil rights rally a week ago Monday complaining that not one member of the city Board of Supervisors had spoken out against bathhouse closures. This was followed by an audience-sparked chant: "Dump Britt!" However, your reporter, George Mendenhall, failed to report my next and concluding sentence: "We must put Pat Norman in City Hall!"

Ever since my first days in the Gay liberation movement back in 1969, I have tried to favor tactics and strategies which are positive, instead of tearing down other members of our community because of frustration with their policies or stands.

Unfortunately, your reporter's elliptical quotation does not convey my intended expression of support for Pat Norman, nor the thrust of such politics.

Konstantin Berlandt
San Francisco

More Vitamins!

★ Congratulations to Stew Anderson for keeping the Vitamin C therapy rap going. Also, Dr. Cathcart, to you, too—even for that overly guarded article in last week's *Bay Area Reporter*. You sounded lobotomized—very mysterious—and almost as if you had your attorney draft the letter, it was that "guarded."

We know you can't promise miracles, sir.

And yet here is Stew Anderson's letter, yet another success story for C. Can we have some more of you dudes out there add to this slowly-growing file of positive info that can save lives?

I cannot recommend enough to you all—*The Life Extension Book*. All through it are countless evidence and case-histories of the magic C does, and also incredibly valuable info to us fighting this plague on the other vitamins and what they do specifically—E for fighting the radicals; A for the strength it gives the Thymus gland which controls our immune system. The authors Durk and Sandy are sincere researchers. Get it. That's an order.

And there is a ray of hope. A year ago they didn't know even what the virus was. You've seen them identify it. A newspaper last week said someone had used an immunizing vaccine on lab animals to good effect.

M. H. Murphy
San Francisco

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LETTERS

No Protection

★ I wanted to cheer as I read your report that the UC-Berkeley study on the natural history of AIDS is having trouble getting volunteers. It sounds like a worthy and important study, but I wouldn't care to put my job and life savings on the line for it.

It's enough that we have to cope with AIDS. We shouldn't have to risk martyrdom as well, and I'm glad to know our people are beginning to call a halt. Perhaps this kind of roadblock will help bring the issues to a focus at City Hall.

The guarantees we are offered will crumble like dry leaves before a court order, or maybe even an administrative decision by the president of the university, who has already made it clear jobs for Gay men are no concern of his.

It's nice that the researchers would be willing to burn their records rather than betray us, but our enemies will do whatever it takes to get those records before our friends can act. Legal procedures are readily available for just such contingencies.

As long as the records contain our identities, we have no reliable protection. The moment a researcher asks for our names, addresses, telephone numbers, or any other tag that could identify us, we should smile enigmatically and leave.

Research protocols will have to be rewritten to deal with our reluctance to jeopardize our freedom and financial security because we turn up with an antibody to some putative AIDS virus, or are in some way linked to high risk something or other. Longitudinal studies will have to get by without the information necessary to recall a volunteer at fixed intervals. They must simply rely on his remembering to come back or publish notices in the Gay press. Such a limitation will mean more dropouts and cost more money, but that's a trifle.

Unless something is done about AIDS instead of bathhouses, current trends yield staggering arithmetic. In five years 6 billion people with AIDS will be running up a medical bill somewhat more than \$400 billion.

Our cooperation is essential, but it can no longer rest on goodwill. The price we must exact for it is that the government fight AIDS and not us. Otherwise, cooperating is not altruistic but self-destructive.

Guarantees of privacy depend on the good faith of the authorities, but every issue of the *Bay Area Reporter* brings us new evidence of their hostility and bad faith. Under the circumstances, prudence demands total anonymity. Those who imagine they have a reason and a right to abuse our confidence can only be stopped if the records simply don't have the information they want.

William T. Ingersoll
Burlingame

Contradictions in Gay Lib

★ The recent AIDS survey for the National Institute of Health being conducted at the University of California at Berkeley has focused attention on a Gay person's rights of privacy and fear of misuse of confidential information. But it has also highlighted an unfortunate difference between Gays and established minority groups. The latter cannot hide their status. Gays still seek to remain largely unidentified as such and yet enjoy the same civil rights protections. This glaring inconsistency has impeded progress in securing such protections, and has even resulted in some opposition from established minorities. Gays cannot expect to have their cake and eat it too.

This situation was recognized in 1979 by the California Supreme Court in *Gay Law Students Ass'n v. Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co.* There, the Gays sought traditional protection from private employment discrimination based on sexual orientation, but the Court said "no." Instead, it held that only persons actually identified as homosexuals or supporters of Gay rights were entitled to protection under current law. The key word is "identified."

But what is the proper response to the AIDS survey? Clearly, it would be unfair if only those taking part in this project became part of the Federal government's Gay file. However, all Gay people can join them by also informing the government of their sexual orientation on their Federal Income Tax Returns.

Everyone, even those without any reportable income, is permitted to file a tax return. When this is done, the word "Gay" can be written across the form in large purple letters with a felt-tipped pen (so as not to obscure any information), and in addition the sentence "I am a homosexual" can be written in some conspicuous blank space.

In this way, we will all be identified as homosexuals, and the government (or any other entity) would hesitate to discriminate against a person so identified for fear of retaliation from among the millions of other Gay people similarly identified. If only 50 percent of us signed up in this manner, and waived our troublesome right of "privacy," we would see a new day in the Gay Liberation Movement, including strong support from established minorities.

Dick Gayer
San Francisco

Quantity or Quality?

★ In your Oct. 18 issue, Michael S. Ross expressed some of his fear and confusion regarding AIDS, alcoholism, lover-beating, loneliness and alienation in the Gay community. He asked, "Is life quantity or quality? What do I do?"

Michael, I can understand your fears. I have them too. I've been in a monogamous relationship for three years and three months and every time I get the flu or a headache I think to myself, "Do I have AIDS? Could it have remained dormant all this time? In those days I spent many hours in the baths and glory holes. Has it taken this long to catch up to me?"

Whether these fears are rational or not, they're real to me. I see friends die from AIDS from time to time and I feel pain. I also get scared. It could have been me. Yes, I get lonely once in awhile, too. Sometimes I don't feel very good about myself, like I don't quite count and I better make a lot of noise to tell you "Hey! I'm here. Look at me. Listen to me. I exist! Don't I?"

I get scared and I point my finger at everyone else. Then I get backed into a corner and somehow a mirror appears and I have to take a look at myself. I have no choice.

Am I a friend? Am I perfect? What good do I have to offer today? How can I help someone else get through this day with a little more joy? Have I told my lover I love him? Have I tried to practice tolerance and acceptance today?

How can I get past my self-centered fears and realize I'm one of many? I do count. You count, Michael. Do something. Call someone. Become a Shanti Counselor. Join a political club or a church. Get therapy if you need it. Reach out and ask for help. There are people there to help you, as I've been helped. There are answers, Michael, if you look and you grab whatever it is that will help you realize your potential.

J. C. Cox
San Francisco

Run For Your Life

★ In the *Runner's World* November issue, a medical study has indicated that running strengthens the body's resistance to infection. A runner "turns over agents in his immune system more efficiently than does an out-of-shape person." One fact known by all runners is fewer colds. The study regarding colds, finds that since runners accumulate large quantities of adrenaline, which serves as an antihistamine, it becomes an effective medicine. Concluding, since running makes us fitter, cardiovascular and psychological, why shouldn't it make us fitter immunologically?

As a runner for seven years, I can attest to the cold factor. I've gotten fewer colds after starting running. With AIDS, perhaps running is a resistance of infection to our immune system. We Gay men are susceptible to many diseases. We know exercising is good. Let's add running along with diet and safe sex to combat AIDS. Get off your asses! Run for your life!

Art Alcantar
San Francisco

Pacific Medical Center

★ From a recent article on the death of David Caravaho one could easily infer that in limiting the visits of Mr. Gene Walz, Garden Sullivan Hospital of the Pacific Medical Center had acted in an inhumane or arbitrary manner. While I cannot easily defend the overall inadequacies of our health system in dealing with the AIDS crisis, I can say that as an occasional worker at Garden Sullivan Hospital I have developed a respect for the caring and responsible nursing staff, and that the small size of that facility allows for a personal approach to patient care that is a primary asset, especially in the unit caring for the AIDS patients. I feel confident that any decision in the case of Mr. Caravaho was made after careful consideration of the difficult medical, moral, and psycho-social issues involved in pain medication for the terminal patient.

Johnny Bonck, OTR
San Francisco

Perkins Speaks

★ Want to thank Herb Levy for his last letter deploring the fact that I discriminate against those over 35 by charging them a fee for my services, \$10 head; \$50 full. I would like to assure Mr. Levy that I discriminate in much more subtle ways, too.

Discrimination was once a word of pride. It meant one could distinguish between intelligence and lack thereof—something Mr. Levy lacks fully and irrevocably. I would like to suggest further that if all Gay men shared my learned abilities of discrimination, no Gay person would be dying of AIDS.

Steve Perkins
San Francisco

Raise Those Funds

★ Two weeks ago, my lover and I held a fundraising party for the AIDS Foundation.

We asked our friends to bring one bag of groceries, or a donation. We raised \$400 and 25 bags of groceries.

If other Gay brothers and Lesbian sisters of the community would consider this kind of party (fundraiser), not only would a loving group of people have a great time, the AIDS Foundation would receive the help it so urgently needs.

Dan Riektor
Ken Reiman
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God Save the Nellie Queens. They sang it 20 years ago outside the police station after Gays were arrested, and they were singing it again at Dignity dinner—Pat Norman, Harry Britt and Louise Renne. (Photo: Rink)

POLITICS AND POKER

Election Post-Mortem

WAYNE FRIDAY

The Republican Party is fast becoming the majority party in America. Across the board—blue-collar labor middle America farmers, big-city apartment dwellers, college students, voting members of the military, and first-time voters across the nation—voted for Ronald Reagan, and the Democratic Party chiefs have to be worried.

Many are calling Ronald Reagan's stunning win a "personal" victory, but others see it as a trend. More voters registered with the Republican party this year than ever before. In California, Republicans out-registered Democrats by the thousands.

The fact that the Democrats picked up two U.S. Senate seats and held the GOP to a net gain of 15 House seats would seem to indicate that Reagan is more popular than are his policies. But most of those first-time voters who went with Reagan on their first vote are likely to consider themselves Republicans, as long as they stay employed, and the economy stays healthy, and will no doubt remain with the GOP in future elections.

The Democrats would be wise to take note that three of the last four presidential elections were won by the Republican nominee with large margins. Democrats are already predicting that they will make huge gains in the 1986 off-year Congressional elections, but there is nothing to assure that. It will take more than digging up a Ted Kennedy, a Gary Hart, or another Mondale-type party hack to win the White House from the Republicans in 1988.

To those who hailed the nomination of Geraldine Ferraro and who claim that she helped the ticket—that's crap. If anything, Ferraro, though she proved a brilliant campaigner, became a hindrance to the Democratic ticket. Mondale would have fared better with a southerner on the ticket—someone like Lloyd Benson of Texas or Dale Bumpers from Arkansas. Ferraro added nothing to the ticket. The lady didn't carry her home congressional district for her party. That heavily Democratic district went to Reagan by a healthy margin.

The Democratic party is now

embroiled in picking a new party national chair, and two San Franciscans, Nancy Pelosi and Duane Garrett, are among those who want the job. Whoever emerges as the new party chair in January should start looking past the currently mentioned possible '88 candidates, the Kennedys, Harts, Ferraro's etc., and start grooming candidates such as Mario Cuomo of New York, or West Virginia's new senator, Jay Rockefeller. The alternative is that Republicans could be in charge at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue for years and years to come.

In San Francisco, Quentin Kopp was quick to blame his surprising third place finish in the supe's race on his being "engulfed in that liberal tidal wave." One can only assume he was talking of that Reagan liberal tidal wave. John Molinari's City Hall office received a number of phone calls the morning after the election with offers of congratulations—some from officials choosing to remain unidentified, who Kopp thought were his allies. After the absentee ballots were tallied last week, the conservative Kopp ended up 9,768 votes behind front-running Jack Molinari and 7,111 behind second-place Louise Renne.

Women candidates running across the nation this year fared poorly, but Madeleine Kunan, a Democrat, was elected in Vermont to become America's second woman governor. All six female U.S. senatorial candidates lost, but in Rhode Island, Arlene Violet, a Republican ex-nun who was forced to choose between the church and politics, won election as this country's first female Attorney General-elect.

Bill Mandel's column, "Let's police the Cops in Sunday's Ex," was a beaut. Have you noticed that when Dianne is out of town, the cops get a little over-anxious?

Willie Brown, appearing on Sunday's "Weekend Extra" on KRON-TV with Belva Davis and Rollin Post, didn't sound very much like a candidate for mayor (despite Herb Caen's one-man boomlet). Brown, basking in the wake of the defeat of Prop. 39, which would have stripped Willie and the Demo-

crats of a lot of their power, said he "loves being Speaker." The defeat of the Deukmejian-backed Prop. 39 confirms Willie Brown as the second most powerful politico in Sacramento.

As for the results of the statewide propositions: Voters told Howard Jarvis they had enough of his tax schemes (Prop. 36 was badly beaten); told Deukmejian and the Republicans they were sick of the reapportionment issue; and handed both the Governor and Attorney General, John Van de Kamp, political defeats by passing the lottery (Prop. 37).

State senator Milton Marks, who had said he was in his "toughest campaign ever," trounced Democrat Lia Belli, even in heavily Democratic San Francisco where he won 354 of 394 precincts. In case you didn't recognize the song the band struck up after Ron and Nancy left the victory party at the Plaza Hotel, it was "The Best of Times" from the Gay musical *La Cage aux Folles*. You have to wonder if Jerry Falwell knows about this.

Signs of the times? Rep. Gerry Studds, who was censured by the House for having a homosexual affair with a teenage male page, won reelection in Massachusetts Tenth Congressional District by nearly a 2-to-1 margin, while Rep. Dan Crane, (R-III.), who was censured for having sex with a teenage female page, lost his reelection bid.

Mayor Dianne Feinstein, awaiting election returns at the Fairmont Hotel with John Molinari, heard someone question whether or not Reagan's lopsided win was a mandate. The Mayor, who had campaigned hard for the Democratic ticket, snapped, "If this isn't a mandate, I've never seen one."

Assemblyman Robert Naylor is giving up the Assembly minority leader post to run for the U.S. Senate in 1986. That is bad news for another northern California Republican, Rep. Ed Zschau, who also plans on running for that seat. The likelihood of two strong northern California candidates for the GOP nomination would probably mean they would knock each other off and the nod would go

cont. on next page



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CLOSED MONDAYS

POLITICS

cont. from previous page

to a southern Californian such as Ed Davis, Rep. Bobbi Fiedler, or LA County Supervisor Mike Antonovich.

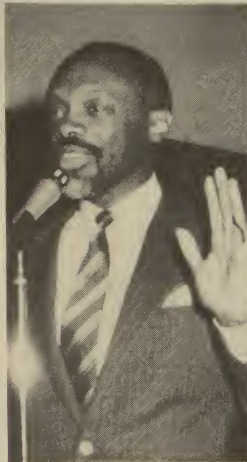
Incidentally, someone called to point out that every legislator—Republican and Democrat alike—who voted for the Deukmejian-vetoed AB-1, won on Nov. 6, including Sen. Ed Davis and Marin's Assemblyman Bill Filante.

In southern California, Doris Tate, mother of slain actress Sharon Tate, lost her bid for an Assembly seat. In Pennsylvania, Nancy Culp, former Beverly Hillsbillies star (Jane Hathaway) lost in her attempt to unseat Congressman Bus Schuster. And in Berkeley, former Black Panther leader Eldridge Cleaver, now a "born-again Christian," lost a bid to become a City Council member.

In Hanover, N.H., a Dartmouth College student who secretly tape-recorded a Gay Students Association meeting and published the excerpts in an unofficial campus newspaper, will not be disciplined, Dean Edward Shanahan announced. The decision was based on authorities' refusal to prosecute Terese Polenzy and the lack of a "clear and precise enough regulation under which to judge conduct of this kind," the dean said. Gay Students Association had complained that members' right to privacy had been violated by Polenzy because a moderator had read an oath of confidentiality at the start of the meeting; her article named leaders but no others.

Losing Democrat Lia Belli reported expenditures of \$527,161 while winner Milton Marks reported spending \$476,312—making the total of over \$1 million and the final reporting period is yet to come.

She should worry? The presi-



Willie Brown (Photo: Rink)

dent of The Synarome Corp., who has named a perfume after Geraldine Ferraro, says he will offer the defeated veep nominee a \$500,000-a-year contract to be the spokesperson of the new product. Ferraro is also pondering offers from half a dozen publishers to write her story as the first female vice presidential nominee.

From the unsung hero department we have to look at John Thiella, campaign manager for Carol Ruth Silver. He did a superb job with a candidate many believed was in deep political trouble. Silver ran more than 40,000 votes ahead of seventh-place Kevin Starr.

Another veteran of numerous political wars, Dennis Collins, did an outstanding job organizing the Gay and Lesbian community for Jack Molinari. One "Gay" precinct I checked in the Castro showed Molinari with 355 votes to 121 for Quentin Kopp and in most of the other so-called "Gay" precincts I have seen, Molinari was running first

or second (behind Harry Britt) while Kopp was placing seventh or eighth (behind Pat Norman). Obviously, the Milk, Toklas, Stonewall and CRIR clubs came through strong for Molinari in the hotly contested presidency fight.

Off and running: The day after the election my City Hall spies saw Supervisor Bill Maher and his campaign team huddling about the 1986 race for president of the board, and I have to wonder what Dick Hongisto and Wendy Nelder think about that.

Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights will choose a president at Monday night's meeting at the Front Page on Annie Street. The election is a re-match between president Tom Peretti and former president Bob Bacci. Ron Smith and Clint Reilly proved themselves once again as hot political properties with big wins around the state last week. Smith, Jack Molinari's chief strategist, left Molinari's election-night party thinking he had lost the Becky Morgan state senate race to Arlen Gregario on the Peninsula. But on his way to Morgan's Santa Clara headquarters, he heard on his car radio that Morgan had pulled ahead, and he had another winner. Reilly scored points with a big win over Howard Jarvis (Prop. 36) as well as Milton Marks' lopsided victory over Lia Belli.

Mark your calendar for this one: The Gay/Lesbian Interest Group of the Marin Democratic Club is hosting a fundraiser to benefit the Marin AIDS Support Network Sunday, Oct. 18 from 1 to 3 p.m. at 133 Center Street in San Rafael. Entertainment by Jane Dornacker; no-host bar, donations of \$15 up asked (checks payable to: Ministry of Light) For info call 488-0885 or 456-4640—try to make this one.

W. Friday

Health Center Has New M.D. for AIDS Screening

Health Center #2, 1301 Pierce Street (at Ellis), announces that Fred Strauss, M.D. of the East Bay will be joining the staff of the AIDS Screening Clinic at the center. Dr. Strauss replaces Dr. Timothy Mess, who accepted a full-time staff position with San Francisco General Hospital.

Dr. Strauss attended the University of California Medical

School in San Francisco, interned in family practice and completed his training in 1982 at the Valley Medical Center in Fresno.

Dr. Strauss followed persons with AIDS on Ward 86 of San Francisco General and currently maintains an affiliation with Berkeley Free Clinic through the Gay Men's Health Collective, which he helped to organize

in 1977.

Appointments to the AIDS Screening Clinic at District Health Center #2 can be made by calling 558-3256. The clinic is scheduled on Wednesdays from 8:00 to 11:30 a.m.; there is a one dollar service fee for each clinic visit.

Gay MDs Group Lauds Leaders of Shanti

Shanti Project announces that two members of its staff, Jim Geary, Executive Director and Helen Schietinger, Director of the Shanti Residence Program, have been awarded Community Service Awards by the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights. Shanti Project, a contract agency of the San Francisco Department of Public Health, offers one-to-one emotional and practical support, information and referral, housing, and staff counseling at San Francisco General Hospital units 5B and Ward 86.

Geary was lauded for having "guided Shanti into its present pre-eminent position in the emotional support of AIDS patients." Schietinger was honored for her role in developing the Shanti Residence Program which sponsors five residence houses and has sheltered more than 50 persons with AIDS.

59 New AIDS Cases in Oct; Local Total Reaches 780

Fifty-nine new cases and twenty-nine deaths of AIDS were reported in San Francisco by Dr. Mervyn F. Silverman, Director of San Francisco Department of Public Health, for the month of October. This is a record month for AIDS, dating back to July 1981, when statistics were officially initiated concerning this new epidemic. Since October 1983, the number of AIDS cases and deaths has doubled. This month's statistics show that the epidemic is not lessening.

Dr. Dean F. Echenberg, Director of Health Department's Bureau of Communicable Disease Control, stated, "While 98 percent of the cases have occurred in the Gay and bisexual community, it is important to note that cases of AIDS are occurring with increasing frequency among intravenous drug abusers and sexual partners of intravenous drug abusers."

Although the numbers are small, five persons with histories of intravenous drug use and two men, whose only apparent risk was sexual contact with female intravenous drug users, have been diagnosed with AIDS in San Francisco. Three of these cases were diagnosed in 1983, while the remaining four cases have been diagnosed within the past five months. All seven patients identified themselves as being heterosexual.

Dr. Echenberg also said that in addition to the known risk of AIDS among the Gay and bisexual community and among IV drug abusers, these other cases indicate that there is a risk of AIDS among those who have sexual contact with members of any of the identified risk groups.

Coming Out as a Person with AIDS

One Gay Men Tells How He Tries To See AIDS as a 'Positive Force'

by Paul Castro

About three months after I was diagnosed with AIDS and Kaposi's Sarcoma, I began speaking to groups on the medical and personal experiences I had encountered. In the year that I've been speaking, the variety of groups as well as the variety of experiences have grown to a considerable number. There's always someone to talk to and something to talk about.

I think I was as surprised as anyone when I discovered the emotional impact I had over my audiences. Sometimes, I would bring tears to nurses when I told them how I revealed my AIDS diagnosis to my mom on her birthday. Once, I made a group laugh by explaining the dilemma I had trying to convince my mom and dad I was Haitian.

At the end of each speaking engagement, I always set about 20 minutes aside for questions. This was mainly to see how I could improve my next presentation but, also, to find out how curious people were about AIDS. Interesting enough the two most asked questions were, "Who gave you AIDS?" and "How do you cope with having AIDS?"

In answering the first question, I was having difficulty trying to pinpoint "the person who" because the transmission and incubation period are so mysterious and confusing. In fact, the explanation I usually give is pretty mysterious and confusing.

When I surveyed my sexual encounters over the year prior to being diagnosed, the number was high. There was no way I was going to figure out who Mr. Right was. In talking to other PWA's, I realized that not all of us were as sexually active as I had been. In fact, there were some who had as few as ten sexual encounters in their whole life. Others had been monogamous for years in their relationships and their partners had not been diagnosed.

I looked back on the steady sexual partners (those with whom I had sex over five times) prior to being diagnosed. Out of that group, one has come down with AIDS. But—did I give it to him or did he give it to me? We decided it wasn't worth the effort to pinpoint the blame.

In fact, I realized there wasn't any conclusive way or reason to pinpoint the blame on who gave me AIDS. I did realize I was not immune to getting the disease—a health conscious and intelligent person.

I realized that the other men I met who had the disease were as varied in their backgrounds, sexual pleasures and habits as the rest of the Gay community, and they were not immune to AIDS. There is no typical person with AIDS—that person could possibly be you.

I used to be shocked and taken aback by the people who showed up at Ward 86, the AIDS Outpatient Clinic at SFGH. I would ask, "Why did he get AIDS?" Everyone's story was different from the next. Some would take the news well. Others didn't. I wanted to tell them it's nothing to be ashamed of—you didn't do anything wrong to get AIDS.

The other difficulty I had with the question was that I was revealing only one aspect of my life: my sex habits. I felt cheated that people only knew of me and other PWA's from our sexuality. I was a thinking, contributing and loving individual before I was diagnosed, so I supplement the first question with

a synopsis of myself prior to AIDS.

In answering the question, of "How do you cope with having AIDS?" you really have to break the question down to everything you're coping with when you have AIDS. Some people feel it's an issue on death and dying. Some people feel it's an issue of how you take care of yourself. It's all of these issues and more. So, in answering that question, I usually take a few of the issues I've dealt with and explain how I've coped.

Telling my parents I had AIDS was particularly hard. I was close to Mom and Dad but, I had never come out to them as a Gay man. Did I tell them I had AIDS or that I was Gay or both at the same time? To top it off, at the time I was diagnosed, no one with AIDS had experienced a way to do it, so this one was up to me.

I eventually told Mom I had AIDS and I kept the conversation strictly to that subject. When I explained the particulars of the disease to my parents, Dad wanted to know how I got it. I told him, through sexual transmission.

He pursued the questioning by asking, who was the woman who gave it to me. And I told him it wasn't a woman, but a man, and that I was Gay. With frequent communication, support from Parents and Friends of Gays, and time, we've been able to deal with my diagnosis and my homosexuality.

As an example, I tell a story which illustrates the close relationship I now share with my parents. On the last day of my parent's vacation to see me, I found Mom in the living room looking into space sort of lonely and depressed.

This was after a complete tour of the city, the north coast of California, Ward 86, and the SF AIDS Foundation, where I volunteered. It was after learning of my own health status, which was pretty precarious, following a recent appendectomy and an onslaught of KS.

And, it was after Bobbi Campbell's Memorial Service in the Castro where Mom and Dad saw me in a cheerleader's skirt eulogize Bobbi. Actually, she had every right to be lonely and depressed considering everything she had been exposed to in a week.

To my surprise, she told me that she was depressed because she was leaving the next day. She said she had had a great time and didn't want it to end. She's since then referred to this trip as the vacation of her lifetime.

Another, and probably more difficult issue around AIDS are the lesions which have



Coping with AIDS is a daily challenge for Paul Castro, other people with AIDS. (Photo: Rink)

come up on my body. Being physically proud of myself prior to the lesions, this has been a particularly sensitive topic.

I decided I had to deal with the lesions first. I didn't like them at all, but there they were and I had to see them each morning when I got up. Now I've sort of gotten used to them and I'm hoping the chemotherapy I'm taking will get rid of them.

In dealing with the lesions and going out in public, I found it overwhelming when I saw over a hundred lesions on my face and body. My clothing covered most of my body, and

many times I chose to wear long sleeve shirts to hide the ones on my arms. After a while, I just wore whatever was comfortable and let people learn to get used to them as I had.

As for my face, I started using make-up to cover the lesions because I was feeling too self-conscious. Let's face it, I'm as vain as the next Gay man about my face. In a way, I felt it was a lot of trouble with the selection of clothing and putting make-up on but, I wanted to have the chance for people to find out who I was—Paul Castro. And later, as I permitted, they could find out what's wrong with my

body—it has AIDS.

The whole idea of having AIDS can be looked at as such a negative force in our lives whether we have it or not. Many people try to close themselves off to AIDS by saying they'll never get it because they're different. Don't kid yourself.

Instead, look at AIDS as a positive force in your life, whether you have it or not. If that seems impossible, then talk to someone who works at the Shanti Project, the SF AIDS Foundation, or any of the AIDS related agencies. Or, better yet, allow yourself to find out firsthand by volunteering. ■



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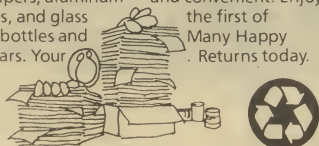
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Now You See It, now you don't. This video clip of Gay cop Paul Seidler kissing a friend at Freedom Day Parade results in an internal complaint against Seidler, still pending. The kissing case is discussed in channel 9 film.



TV Documentary Profiles Police Dept.

Live Exchange on Gay Cops
One Highlight of Channel 9 Program

by Allen White

Last night television viewers got a rare glimpse of what it's like to be a cop in the San Francisco Police Department. It was part of a program, *Express*, broadcast on Channel 9.

The show was four months in the making and it follows the complex dynamics which now form the San Francisco Police Department. It attempts to explain the efforts to assimilate Gays and other minorities into the department. The show airs again Sunday at 5:30 p.m. on channel 9.

There are interesting tape cut-aways from Gay police officer Paul Seidler to Cops For Christ officer James Higgins. Seidler confidently expresses his pride not only at being a police officer, but also at representing the Gay and Lesbian community. For good measure, the show captures Seidler's famous kiss last June at the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade.

Higgins appears in an absolute tizzy about Gays on the police force. He says that when he goes out of town, people want to know if he's straight. One look at the guy and any rational person has wonder if this guy is really on the level or just trying to play a good line for all it's worth.

The strongest confrontation comes when Higgins says he doesn't condemn any homosexual. "When pressed on the point he questions their moral standards, saying 'they fall short of God's commandment.'" Seidler firmly replies, "I'm as moral a person as any. I'm no worse nor any better than any other person."

The interchange with Seidler and Higgins is just a small part of a major documentary effort. The program explores the problems and the frustrations which would seem to appear at every level.

The program criticizes recruits for lacking "worldliness." The senior officers are criticized as "the old guard." In the midst of this there is "the consent decree." It is a court ruling designed to encourage minorities and women on to the police force. In the process it has brought promotions almost to a standstill. One officer complains of working as a cop for eleven

years and not being promoted.

As the program unfolds it begins to ask more questions than it answers. One of the most severe critics of the new officers is Captain Charles Beene, who heads the Tactical Squad. Most people identify the Tac Squad with the head-bashers. If there is over-reaction, brutality or excessive force, the show keeps hinting that someone must be giving the orders. Those people do not appear to be the recruits.

One woman tells of violence at the Hall of Justice during the Democratic Convention. She says that horses are trained not to step on people. At that moment, the camera circles the same person as she falls to the ground and her head feels the full blow of a horse hoof.

In the same program there is coverage of all the recent police scandals, the Rathskeller Restaurant, Lord Jim's, the Democratic Convention. It's all there. Yet, to highlight that part of this now is to cheat the audience. "Inside the S.F.P.D." is the most comprehensive program to be produced about the men and women who are trained to serve the public in law enforcement. For every negative charge there is a glimpse of police officers, many who will be familiar, working hard to do a good job.

Viewers are taken on day and night patrols, to see the reality of police work in San Francisco. For the first time, television cameras were allowed inside the San Francisco Police Academy to film recruits.

"Inside S.F.P.D." is a one hour documentary which will be repeated this Sunday evening at 5:30 p.m. on KQED, Channel 9.

Atlas Opens Branch in Financial District

Gay banking came to San Francisco's financial district when Atlas Savings opened a branch office at 110 Bush Street recently. The facility is located near the intersection of Bush Street, Market Street, and Battery, and near two popular Gay businesses: Sutter's Mill and 132 Bush restaurant.

The concept and design of Atlas' new branch office is rather unique in San Francisco banking circles — there are no teller windows. Instead of tellers, Atlas customers are urged to use the three automated teller machines for simple withdrawals and deposits.

"We wanted a friendly atmosphere in this office that was more inviting than the sterile look of the big banks," said Mark Fulham, branch manager of the new facility. "The sit-down banking approach allows Atlas customers to talk with an account representative on a one-to-one basis in a relaxed setting. Customer response to our new branch has been overwhelmingly positive."

Atlas' entry into the affluent white-collar business district has two marketing goals: to provide banking convenience for the thousands of Lesbians and Gay men who work downtown and want to bank where they work; and to enlarge Atlas' customer base by attracting non-Gay depositors who like Atlas' high interest rates and friendly atmosphere.

Business hours for the new branch are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, and the office is closed Saturdays and Sundays because of light foot traffic in the area. However, the three automated teller machines are open 24 hours everyday for those who need cash for shopping or nightlife.

The Bush Street office is Atlas' third branch to open since the successful savings and loan opened its doors on Market Street less than three years ago. In that short time, Atlas has seen its assets grow from \$2.5 million in 1981 to more than \$100 million currently. The company is now constructing a \$2 million corporate headquarters building and branch office at 444 Castro St., which is slated for completion in early 1985.

DEATHS

Larry "Ozzie" Gaines

Larry "Ozzie" Gaines, 17, a habitue of the Polk Street area where he was often seen on his skateboard, will be memorialized at 8 p.m., Friday, Nov. 16 at the Larkin Youth Center, 1040 Larkin (at Sutter). The Rev. Jim Sandmire of Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church will officiate.

Gaines was apparently murdered the week of May 13. His dismembered body was unearthed at Land's End three weeks ago by homicide investigators, and three suspects have been arrested in connection with the crime.

Frank C. Weis, Jr.

Frank C. Weis, Jr. is dead because of AIDS-related diseases. He died Nov. 5 in Memphis, Tenn. In his courageous effort to overcome the tremendous odds, he gained the respect of all who came in contact with him.

Frank was born in Memphis Aug. 1, 1949. He went to college at the University of Mississippi and the New School for Social Research in New York City where he met his true love and lasting companion, Stuart Grossman, who was at his bedside at Frank's death.

Frank moved to San Francisco at age 30 and immediately fell in love with the city. He leaves his friends Stuart, Rolf, Kevin, Brian, Walter, Ed, David, and Rob.



Send condolences to 145 Sanchez St., S.F. 94114, and contributions in care of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

Felix Velarde-Munoz

Felix Velarde-Munoz, 33, died of AIDS-related causes Nov. 8 at Presbyterian Hospital.

Felix graduated from UC Berkeley in 1973 with a B.A. in Rhetoric and from Harvard Law School in 1977. In his most recent employment at the State Bar of California, Felix investigated malpractice charges against licensed attorneys.

Felix was a member of the Board of Directors of the Legal Aid Society of San Francisco, a member of the California State Bar Committee for Persons with Special Needs, and a Consultant for the National Endowment for the Humanities, Humanities and the Law Program.

Memorial services will be private; a gathering of friends to celebrate Felix and his life will be held Saturday, Nov. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at 1446 Waller, San Francisco. Contributions in Felix's memory should be sent to Shanti Project, 890 Hayes St., San Francisco, CA 94117.

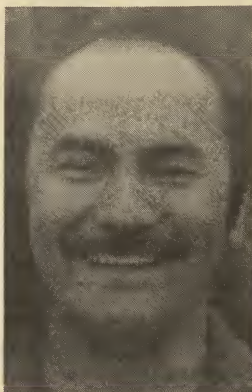
Felix had been tenaciously fighting AIDS-related diseases for at least three years. He will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by his family and his many friends.

Michael Alexander

"Chico," Michael Alexander (formerly known as Hugo Cahue), died peacefully at home Oct. 31 in Berkeley with his lover of 17 years, after an extremely painful struggle against AIDS. Chico was diagnosed in September 1983. Chico had lived in San Francisco and Berkeley since 1959 and his many friends will remember him for his spontaneity and warmth.

Chico was extremely thoughtful and he would always help young men who looked hungry or were cold. Every day he would come home with a snip of a bush, a plant, flowers, a fish, a dog, a bird, or even a tree. He loved to have parties where he could entertain and make his friends sing and dance and have fun. He had a mischievous sparkle in his eye that filled each day with excitement for all those who were around him.

Chico decided Aug. 3 upon leaving the hospital after the sixth time never to return. The



hospice nurses of the Visiting Nursing Association became a most beautiful team of caring and loving people (particularly Kate and Kasey), who truly gave Chico dignity, love, and an appreciation for the quality of his life at home he so much desired.

Curtis Kent Andrews

Curtis Andrews, 32, died Oct. 11 in San Francisco. Said his brother Douglas Andrews, "Curt is one of those special people we all want to be around. I am fortunate because Curt is my brother. When I think of Curt I remember he always had a smile on his face. He brought joy and happiness to so many people. He would always work hard at making this a better world to live in, and he succeeded."

"Curt was always a leader in social issues, making sure everyone had equal justice under the law. Curt was always there to help people who were less fortunate than he was. Curt will always be with us. The happy memories he gave us will live forever. Curt made a difference. He made this world a better place. I have been blessed by having Curt as my brother."

A QUESTION OF LAW

TOM HORN



QUESTION: One of the most hotly debated issues of our time has been whether the bathhouses and sex clubs should be closed. The debate was only intensified when San Francisco Public Health Director, Mervin Silverman, ordered the baths and clubs closed. I, for one, feel that if someone wishes to choose to engage in high-risk activity, then it is that person's right to do so. Does Dr. Silverman have the legal right to order these businesses closed?

ANSWER: Your question is as hotly debated as the underlying merits of whether or not to close the baths and clubs. It should also be pointed out that this writer represents two businesses that were ordered closed by Dr. Silverman (although the court did not uphold this order as to these two particular businesses and allowed them to remain open with a modified temporary restraining order directed at certain activities). Therefore, my analysis of the situation is admittedly far from impartial.

Essentially, the director of Public Health argues that he is empowered under state law (particularly Health and Safety Code § 3110) and local ordinance to take such steps as he believes necessary to prevent the spread of a contagious disease. He argues that AIDS is most likely transmitted through high-risk sexual activity, and that if the baths and clubs are closed, then there will be less opportunity for that activity to occur.

As the case stands right now, Superior Court Judge William Mullins has agreed with the director, and has issued a temporary restraining order closing ten of the businesses. The matter is set for further court hearing on the director's application for preliminary injunction currently set for Wednesday, Nov. 14.

Regardless of the order issued by the judge, I continue to be of the opinion that the Director of Public Health does not possess the broad authority he claims in this case. Sexual activity among consenting adults, out of public view, is legal. The director does not purport to be attempting to prevent an illegal act from occurring. Rather, it is his theory that the director may prevent otherwise lawful conduct if he can show that the lawful conduct is likely to lead to the spread of a disease. I do not believe the legislature intended to confer such broad authority on the director when it enacted the quarantine powers contained in the Health and Safety Code. Take, for example, the case of a health director in a small county who comes to court with more than ample medical evidence showing the connection between alcoholism and liver disease and death. Does this give that county health director the right to close the bars in his county or otherwise issue an order against the sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages? Or, may the director of public health in a county ban

the sale, possession, and use of tobacco after he makes a medical showing linking cigarette smoking with lung disease? I do not think the legislature intended to confer such power on a local health director. If he does have this power, then he becomes more powerful in his county than the state legislature, the governor, or the Supreme Court because he can ban otherwise lawful activity merely because he concludes there is a connection between that activity and some health hazard.

In the bathhouse/sex club case, there are other legal problems as well. Before the health director can act, there should be a showing that his action is going to be effective. That is, that the closing of the baths and clubs will lessen the incidence of high-risk sex. Since the temporary restraining order was issued closing ten of the establishments, two things have been noticeable immediately. First, business is dramatically increased in establishments not closed. Only two of the adult theaters in San Francisco were affected by the court's order. Business is substantially up at the theaters not affected. Attendance at bathhouses outside the County of San Francisco has likewise shown a marked increase. Second, arrests for public lewdness and indecent exposure have risen substantially. The only conclusion that can be drawn is that the health director's order has succeeded in relocating the activity only, not in reducing its incidence.

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Perhaps the most pernicious psychological effect is internalized homophobia. The Gay man might be impelled to think, 'Well, what I have been doing turns out to be nasty after all.'



(Photo: Rink)

AIDS, Psychotherapy, and Gay Men

What Four Psychotherapists Think the Issues Are

by Marv Shaw

"I don't know of any therapist who deals with Gay patients who hasn't had to deal with the AIDS crisis in one way or another," psychotherapist Donald Mariacher says. In the course of interviewing four therapists on the subject, I found unanimous agreement on that point.

In addition to Mariacher, who holds a Master of Social Work degree and practices in San Francisco and Redwood City, I consulted Arthur Carfagni, a psychiatrist in San Francisco; Leon McKusick, an S.F. therapist who has a Master of Science degree in Marriage and Family Counseling; and Leonard Maran, who has an

their sexual identity. In some cases, Gay men experiencing AIDS-related stress might fall into depression, resort to defiant acting out, suffer anxiety, and perhaps become paranoid.

Maran characterizes this general group as the "worried well," those who do not have AIDS or its symptoms, but are

'We will never go back to an uncomplicated sexuality. Sexuality, for Gay men, will have a different meaning forever more.'

MSW degree and practices in S.F. and San Mateo. My intent was to discover what effect AIDS is having on the mental health of Gay men generally, and on those who are being treated for other problems associated with their Gayness, as seen by the experts who conduct the treatment. Each contributed insightful views, which often corresponded.

Carfagni pointed out at once that if the concentration was to be on Gay men in psychotherapy, we would be talking about a skewed sample of the Gay male population, but that the effects of the epidemic are so pervasive they are bound to show up in some measure in the Gay community as a whole. Consequently, he explained, even those who have achieved a mastery over their sexual identity and are not in conflict about it might very well now face a life-threatening stress that could reintroduce problems about their self-esteem. They might need to re-think the whole matter of

very concerned about what might happen to them. McKusick thinks of the influence as tremendous and profound. Mariacher pointed out that Gay therapists themselves are in the risk group and so have a very personal stake in the phenomenon.

All four agree one of the heaviest effects on Gay males has been a more constant and deeper consciousness of suffering and death. Maran pointed out that the weekly death notices in the *Bay Area Reporter* alone indicate the terrible concern we must all feel. McKusick said grief counseling has had to be increased as lovers and dear friends have sickened and died. And for McKusick, one of the more disastrous effects is a demoralizing one: in addition to the grief of personal loss, the Gay community is being decimated of Gay men in their young maturity — a time in their lives when their example and leadership could mean the most to us all.

Naturally, the effect on sexual behavior has been very strong. As Maran and Carfagni both pointed out, the decade after Stonewall was one in which the *sine qua non* of being Gay was to be sexually free. That led to unbridled activity. Now, the threat of AIDS has made everyone aware of the consequences of non-discriminatory sleeping around. No one can be naive. The effect has been terribly sobering. None of the four recommended celibacy, but each indicated that if such were the choice of a patient/client there should be a careful examination of that decision and its possible influence on that man's life and mental health.

"We will never go back to an uncomplicated sexuality," Maran said. "Sexuality, for Gay men, will have a different meaning forever more."

Each recognizes that one dangerous recourse for many Gay men in the face of the threat is compulsive behavior: more sex, drinking, drugs. Also, extreme withdrawal from socializing and sexual contact could have a damaging effect.

In sexual behavior alone, McKusick feels one of the greatest needs for Gay men is the effective eroticizing of "safe sex." He sees that process as difficult indeed.

Perhaps the most pernicious psychological effect is internalized homophobia. As Maran put it, the Gay man might be impelled to think, "Well, what I have been doing turns out to be nasty after all." Therefore, when AIDS fear surfaces in psychotherapy, one of the greatest needs is to dissociate it from the patient/client's self-concept. For Carfagni, this process is one of demystifying the disease and separating it from myth. Two components in this process are the best possible current information in the medical literature and a refutation of the moral judgment accusation which the Jerry Falwells and others raise.

Each therapist has seen a great increase in the perceived values of relationships. Mariacher especially emphasized that matter. He sees many couples staying together who might ordinarily have split. Singles come into therapy with the main ob-

cont. on next page

AIDS, Psychotherapy, and Gay Men

cont. from previous page

jective of finding ways to mate, maintain monogamy, and thereby have a safe and satisfying sex life. He regrets that fear is often the impetus for these motives, even though the result might be a happier life for some.

As for meeting the challenge of AIDS fear in psychotherapy, all four insisted that in the psychotherapeutic process, the patient/client must make his own choices, with the therapist assisting. That assistance consists principally of encouragement in bringing completely into the open all concerns, questions, and proposed courses of action and then examining them. Maran pointed out that each therapist would proceed according to his own training and convictions, but basically, the non-directive, exploratory procedure is much the same. He also emphasized that a very important ongoing factor is a sensitivity about noticing extreme steps, such as bolting a metropolitan setting, as a way of coping with AIDS.

The four therapists also had similar views on the matter of the long range view of the AIDS crisis, and the ongoing lives of men in the Gay community.

"I hate to think that this is what it would take for people to

live rational lives," Maran said. However, all four see a change happening. Carfagni, for example, sees the '70s as the adolescence of the national Gay community, with a new plane of maturity now being reached. McKusick, too, sees the present as a time of more rational decisions bringing about changed behavior.

Carfagni is certain the fast lane lifestyle is passe for most Gay men. He emphasized that AIDS will be with us always. Even if a truly effective vaccine is developed and used, there will not be a return to the promiscuous sex of the '70s. As for the best psychological course for maturing Gay men, he said it must be realized that while sexuality is still an important part of one's identity, it is not the only part. The development of other segments, such as occupations, is essential for a mental stability which will promote solid self-esteem and a healthy lifestyle.

In addition, Carfagni feels greater attention must be paid to overall health.

"The Gay man who feels good about his health and about himself generally will tend to avoid risk-taking impulses," he said.

Maran and Mariacher, on a closely related matter, held the only two contrasting views. Mariacher thinks that among the general public there has been "an incredible amount of understanding and support here and in comparable communities." He was careful to add, however, that other localities might not be so understanding. Maran sees the public reaction generally as antagonistic, citing the taunting and attacks on Gay men. While there have been gains in political and other spheres, he feels the probability now is that social gains will be thwarted, with AIDS being a strong contributor to that blockage. Maran also pointed out that the concurrent conservative trend in the country is made stronger by the AIDS coincidence, producing ever greater reaction.

But all four recognize that there is really no retreat. Once out, there is no point in trying to get back into the closet. Avoiding visibility would simply be adding negative psychological influence. Though none of the four deals with Gay youth, they all recognize that the oncoming generation has a knotty problem. If sexual relating is fraught with danger, how will Gay identity and a membership in the Gay community be affected? Mariacher suggested the older Gay community assist with a fostering of other, non-sexual ways of coming out.

M. Shaw

Harvard Law Expert to Argue Gay Rights Case

Professor Laurence H. Tribe, one of the nation's foremost experts on constitutional law, will represent the National Gay Task Force (NGTF) in a key Oklahoma case which will be heard by the United States Supreme Court this term. The announcement of Tribe's participation was made by Virginia M. Apuzzo, Executive Director of NGTF.

Tribe is the Tyler Professor of Constitutional Law at Harvard University, where he has been a member of the Law Faculty for 16 years. A much sought-after appellate advocate and legislative witness, Tribe has prevailed in ten of the thirteen cases he has briefed and argued during the past six years as lead counsel in the U.S. Supreme Court and federal circuit courts. He has testified before the U.S. House and Senate as a constitutional authority several dozen times since the mid-1970s.

Tribe will direct the presentation of the NGTF arguments pro bono, without fee.

In a 2-1 decision, the U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit, held in March that "The part of the Oklahoma Statute that allows punishment of teachers for 'public homosexual conduct' does present constitutional problems," since such conduct was defined in the statute as "advocating, soliciting, imposing, encouraging or promoting public or private homosexual activity in a manner that creates a substantial risk that such conduct will come to the attention of school children or school employees."

NGTF, acting as plaintiff in the case on behalf of teachers and principals in Oklahoma City, had appealed an earlier unfavorable ruling. The brief for NGTF argued that the law created an unconstitutional infringement on free speech, and the Appeals Court agreed.

The case is now before the Supreme Court because Oklahoma appealed that decision.

Thrift Store to Distribute \$3,000

The Community Thrift Store plans to distribute \$3016.61 to various Gay, Lesbian, and other groups, according to its latest report. The distribution is subject to routine approval by the Tavern Guild Foundation Board. This will make a total of \$31,463.24 distributed since the store opened, two years ago, in September 1982. The biggest beneficiaries are:

- National Gay Rights Advocates \$ 116.97
- S.F. AIDS Foundation 1,395.81
- Shanti Project 178.40
- MCC-San Francisco 100.43

This money represents the profit from the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1983. The books of the store are now essentially caught up, and future distributions are expected monthly until all the back quarters are paid out. Manager Don Miesen estimates there is about \$30,000 more waiting at Atlas Savings & Loan for future distribution.

Future success of the store depends on volunteers. Call 861-4910, or come by the store at 625 Valencia, any day from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and talk to Don or Elmer about volunteering. There is a wide variety of tasks to be done each day, and the store promises to find a job to fit any talent. Some jobs, in fact, take no talent at all. So try Thrift Store Madness, an ongoing production, staged at street level, where anyone can be a star.

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GREATER BAY NEWS

Trial Date Nears In Gay's Murder

**Prostitute Charged in Death
Of East Bay Opera Lover**

by Charles Linebarger

Sometime on Easter Weekend (April 21-22), Edward McGaffney, a 50-year-old East Bay man, picked up a hustler at the Coral Reef bar in Oakland. McGaffney then disappeared from sight—he missed a party on Easter Sunday, and missed work on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. His friends became anxious, especially J. C. Lambert, who knew that McGaffney had a penchant for young, punkish hustlers. With the landlady's okay, Lambert broke down the door of McGaffney's apartment on Wednesday. He found McGaffney dead with a telephone cord wound tightly around his neck.

Recently Lambert talked to the *Bay Area Reporter* about his friend, Edward McGaffney. McGaffney was a native of Ayre, Scotland, where his parents and siblings still live today. As a young man he joined the British Merchant Marine for the Royal Postal Service.

Traveling around the world, he was able to indulge his passion for grand opera. He visited opera houses wherever his ship berthed, and he collected opera music and paraphernalia until his collection grew into the second passion in his life.

In the early '60s McGaffney went to Taverstock Nursing School in London where he did an extended 5-year program to become a psychiatric nurse. In 1969 he went to Baylor University Hospital in Dallas, Texas, and in '73 he arrived in San Francisco to take a job at Mount Zion Hospital. In the years following he went on to work at Presbyterian and St. Mary's hospitals. After 1977 McGaffney worked at Herrick Hospital in Berkeley.

Lambert said he had known McGaffney for many years. He knew that in addition to his love of opera, McGaffney often picked up what is known as

"rough trade." Lambert rarely met these young men. "Edward would shoot them out when one of his friends came over," Lambert recalled. "He kept his friends and his tricks completely separate."

McGaffney and Lambert frequently called each other and Lambert recalled that he became extremely anxious about his friend when McGaffney failed to answer his telephone calls the Saturday before Easter and the days following. Several friends called Lambert and asked if he had seen McGaffney. By Wednesday, when Lambert broke down the door to McGaffney's apartment, he had pretty much come to a conclusion as to what he was going to find.

"I knew what I was walking into," Lambert recalled. "It would have been a shock if I'd found him alive."

Darryl Billups, an Assistant District Attorney in Oakland, talked about the case in a telephone conversation with the *Bay Area Reporter*. The accused murderer, Shelby Simpson, a young East Bay man, confessed to the burglary when he was apprehended in Los Angeles in the murdered man's car, a week fol-



Winning Candidate for Berkeley City Council is Ann Chandler, (L.) seen here with Tom Brougham of East Bay Gay, Lesbian Demo Club. (Photo: M. A. Brownstein)

Pro-Gay Pols Win Berkeley Council Seats

**Candidates Who Pledged Support
For Domestic Partners in Majority**

East Bay Lesbian and Gay political activists expressed both happiness and disappointment about the outcome of local races in the Nov. 6 election. Members of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club were jubilant that, in Berkeley, all city council candidates backed by the club swept to victory, ousting incumbents who had opposed immediate implementation of Domestic Partners benefits for city employees.

Ann Chandler, Maudelle Shirek and Don Jelinek, members of the progressive Berkeley Citizens Action (BCA) slate, had been endorsed by the Democratic Club. They, along with BCA slate member Nancy Skinner, won the four seats at stake on the nine-member city council, replacing incumbents affiliated with the more conservative All Berkeley Coalition (ABC).

All four BCA candidates had pledged to support immediate implementation of a plan proposed by the city's Human Relations and Welfare Commission, and originated by the Gay Demo club, that the city provide spousal benefits for the domestic partners of unmarried city employees. The current ABC-dominated city council had earlier this year voted five to four to delay implementation of the plan for at least two years while "further study" was done.

Armand Boulay, president of the EBL/GDC and elected in June as one of two openly Gay members of the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee, expressed optimism that the new BCA council majority would enact Domestic Partner legislation in early 1985. "The implications are enormous," said Boulay. "Once Berkeley has implemented a fair, well-thought-out spousal benefits plan, no other municipality can use the argument that 'its never been done.'"

In the race for Berkeley School Board, incumbent Board president Steve Lustig was elected along with fellow BCA slate member Joe Gross. Lustig, a member of Gay Demo club, had been endorsed by the club along with Gross and apparently was not hurt in the race by his vote earlier this year to phase in Domestic Partner benefits for employees of the school district.

In other good news to Gay activists, Peggy Hora was elected in Hayward as a Municipal Court judge. Hora had worked closely this year with the club in persuading state senator Bill

Lockyer (D-Hayward) to vote for AB-1, the employment rights measure eventually vetoed by Governor Deukmejian.

Lesbian and Gay activists expressed disappointment that Oakland City Councilwoman Marge Gibson fell short in her bid for a seat on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors from District 4 (Oakland-Castro Valley-San Leandro). Gibson, who had sponsored the successful Lesbian and Gay Rights ordinance last year in Oakland, was outspent three-to-one by her opponent, fellow Democrat Bob Knox.

Said Mary Ann Brownstein, vice-president of the Gay Demo club, "Marge was right there on Lesbian and Gay issues, from sponsorship of a county nondiscrimination ordinance to making sure that there would be adequate funding for county AIDS services." The Campaign for Equality, the political action fund of the EBL/GDC, had contributed over \$1,000 to Gibson's election effort.

Jim Chambers, co-chair of the East Bay AIDS Resources Organization (EBARO), saw a silver lining in Gibson's unsuccessful effort. "Though Marge lost," said Chambers, "she forced Knox to match her strong position on retaining Fairmont Hospital as a county-run facility. This is important for the success of the county AIDS program that EBARO has lobbied so long for. By making a campaign issue out of Fairmont, Marge made it much more likely that the AIDS clinic will continue and that the AIDS ward will open there in January, as planned."

In other East Bay races, members of the state legislature who had supported AB-1, all Democrats, were reelected handily. Among them was Tom Bates (Oakland-Berkeley), who successfully sponsored AB-848, the anti-"Gay-bashing" bill signed into law last session. Also reelected were East Bay Democratic congressional incumbents. Among them was Ron Dellums, who had appeared earlier this year with Massachusetts congressman Gerry Studds at a Berkeley fundraiser to benefit Studds' reelection campaign.

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A Natural

"I guess that I would describe myself as a loner—doing what I want to do when I want to do it."

Steve Valone, Revol's newest bartender, was born in Chicago's South Side 25 years ago. He is the youngest in his family, with two brothers and a sister as siblings. He always knew that he was gay, but actually came out when he was 17, with a stranger in a park. His lifestyle has never been discussed with his family, and his strict upbringing prompted the first of Steve's many moves—this one to Calumet City where he was "on his own" at the age of 16.

Along with Oakland, San Francisco, Chicago, and Calumet City, Steve has lived in Houston (where he had a good job but hated the city. "If you ain't a cowboy in Houston, you ain't shit!"), South Bend ("Too slow paced and not much there unless you're a farm boy."), and Los Angeles ("I really liked it there, but decided I liked Chicago better so moved back.").

Nez: Why did you move to San Francisco?

Steve: I wanted to live somewhere I've never been before, and mostly the weather and lifestyle intrigued me. I wanted to experience first hand that "freedom of the gay lifestyle." I was in San Francisco for about five months and it was not what I had expected. I fully hoped to find a job right away as bartender. But in S.F. unless you have in-town references, the bars are very reluctant to hire. Chicago is just the opposite. The first considered to be hired are always the out-towners. Chicagoans want to help those Gays from out of town. I guess one of the reasons for my moving to San Francisco was because I was looking for someone. Seems that everyone is looking for someone. Back in Chicago there was just too much bar scene, and not enough life for me. Everyone back there knew my business, and sometimes I get in moods of wanting to be where nobody knows me. I'm not running from something; I'm running to something.

Nez: Did you ever find what you wanted in San Francisco?

Steve: I guess that I expected people to be different out here, as far as Gay life is concerned, but people are the same everywhere. I didn't expect everyone to have a lover, with both parties cheating on each other every other night. I'm not saying that Chicago is better than San Francisco or visa versa. Both places have their good and bad points. But I got really down and out in San Francisco. I lost my wallet with all my money in it, and was really getting desperate. I have never hustled in my life, but I was almost ready to do it to survive. I had countless interviews and countless promises of jobs, but none materialized. I was really low. I had left a good job, a good house, good furniture and was really ready to head back. Then I answered an ad for a job at Sassy's in Oakland. I didn't especially want restaurant work, and I wasn't quite ready for being a topless waiter, but I needed a job. The rest of my stay in Oakland is recent history.

Nez: What are the major differences in Gay life between Chicago and the Bay Area?

Steve: Mainly the attitude.



Steve Valone

Everyone is on guard in Chicago. If you don't watch everything that is going on, you'll get fucked. It's a much rougher atmosphere, and the people back there have more aggressions. There are lots more fights in bars. The last bar that I worked in could count on at least three fights during a weekend. The whole environment is temper influenced. And there is a lot more crime back there. I have been mugged on the subway, beat up when leaving a bar, and stabbed in my back four times. People here are more willing to be friends, on a one-to-one basis. In my short time here in Oakland, I've got some of my five or six best and closest friends. Certainly not like Chicago. I only had two close friends there after five years. Another big difference—there is absolutely no court system in Chicago. There are a lot of queens, but no Emperor and Empress.

Nez: Any anxieties? Any main dreams?

Steve: I like to be alone, but I'm afraid of always being alone. I want to be happy, and some day I want to own my own bar and restaurant, somewhere here on the West coast.

Nez: Any differences on being a bartender here and there?

Steve: In Chicago, all the bars are high-pressure places. A bartender didn't have to have a personality and didn't have to know the customers. It's a whole different life getting to know them rather than just pour their drinks and send them on their way. Out here it's a group of people in a Gay community. In Chicago, everyone is an individual—there is NO community. People learn to be harder and more self-reliant. I guess that's why sometimes I come off as being arrogant and cold; but it's a result of the upbringing in Chicago. It's all based on environment. Back there, people told me that I would die in a year with AIDS. That's the way Chicagoans think. The threat didn't bother me, because I'm not as promiscuous as people think I am. Also, there's always that feeling that most of us have: It's not going to happen to me.

Nez: Why the tattoos?

Steve: I had some problems accepting my Gayness. It took a long time to realize that I'd never be married with kids and a home. I was engaged to be married three different times, but called them off. I didn't have any trouble knowing my own masculinity, but I wanted to make sure that others wouldn't have any doubt about my masculinity. I think that my three tattoos serve my purpose.

Nez: Who is Steve?

Steve: When he dies out, he'll let you know.

NEZ PAS

Nez: Are you content in Oakland's Gay scene?

Steve: I find it comfortable, friendly, low key and homey. I do find it difficult getting used to a town that closes at 2 a.m. In Chicago they have 2, 4, and 5 a.m. licenses, so there's always somewhere to go after work. I always worked in a 2 a.m. bar, and had time to unwind for a few hours after work and possibly fall in lust for the morning.

Nez: Any final comments?

Steve: There are a couple of things that I do want to set straight. I was accused of stealing some money from an employer. It was removed from my check. It was also discovered that I hadn't taken a red cent. The money was found. I never received an apology and never received the money back. Also, I want to state that this IS my natural hair color, contrary to what people may think. I really enjoy Oakland, and look forward to making it my home. I'd like to thank Revol for giving me a break when no one else would.

Thank you Steve, for giving Oakland a break.

I don't believe in miracles— I rely on them! I'm smiling!

Love, Nez

Gay Singers To Highlight Stockton Concert

The Rev. Virgil F. Scott in association with Metropolitan Community Church-Stockton, in the first of a series of Gay cultural events, presents a concert of Gay Men's Music with the popular San Francisco-based singer-songwriters Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips.

Romanovsky and Phillips will perform on Saturday, Dec. 1, at the First Unitarian Church, 2737 Pacific Ave., Stockton. The concert will start at 8 p.m. and tickets are available by a donation of \$7.50 and \$5 at the door, or MCC-Stockton, 320 E. Poplar #A, or The Paradise, 4206 N. West Lane (\$15 donation in advance includes a reception after the concert with Romanovsky and Phillips).

Romanovsky and Phillips have been performing their original, out-of-the-closet music for over two years. They are currently on a tour throughout the West, performing in clubs, concert halls, and on college campuses in over a dozen cities. Known for their soaring harmonies, witty lyrics, and compelling stage presence, R & P have won unanimous praise from critics, gained a loyal following, and established themselves as exciting new voices in the world of Gay men's music in a very short time. They have just released their first album, *I Thought You'd Be Taller*.

A Romanovsky and Phillips concert is an event not to be missed. In the words of one critic, "If Romanovsky and Phillips are traveling within 100 miles of your home, the caress of their song will make the ride well worth it. You'll leave the concert feeling excited, happy, humming for days and reaffirmed in your pride to be Lesbian or Gay" (*Gay Community News*, Boston).

For more information call Metropolitan Community Church, Stockton, (209) 943-5277.

Trial on Murder Nears

cont. from previous page

lowing the killing.

As Billups recalled the facts in the confession, Simpson stated that he had been picked up by McGaffney in order to perform an act of prostitution. According to Simpson, McGaffney failed to pay him the money they had previously agreed upon, so he choked him until he was unconscious and began to search the apartment for valuables.

McGaffney regained consciousness, according to Simpson, and he choked him until McGaffney was unconscious again. The second time that McGaffney regained consciousness Simpson gagged him and tied him up with the telephone cord. According to Billups, McGaffney had a gag reaction, threw up, and choked to death.

When Lambert entered the apartment on Wednesday he found it had been ransacked but not trashed. When the police found Simpson a week later he was still in McGaffney's car. In his confession, according to Billups, he asserted that McGaffney's death had been accidental. He had only meant to keep the dead man out of the way while he robbed him.

Simpson has been charged with burglary and murder. He waits in the North Alameda County jail until Nov. 30, when the preliminary hearing has been scheduled. At that time the prosecutor's office will make a determination as to whether to go for murder 1, or murder with special circumstances—which can carry the death penalty. According to Billups, manslaughter has already been ruled out.

"Though McGaffney was Simpson's 'John,'" Billups said, "and the jury could come to the conclusion that they were both just dirt bags, I don't think that's going to happen. That's a pretty hard way to die and any self-respecting prostitute will tell you to get the money first."

"Murder 1" requires a showing of "cold-blooded premeditation," while murder with special circumstances requires that the prosecutor show the murder was committed during the commission of another life threatening

felony—such as rape, burglary, or robbery with a weapon. The difference in sentencing is important. Murder 1 carries 25 years to life (count on parole after 15–16 years inside), while murder with special circumstances carries life without possibility of parole, or the death sentence.

What the prosecutor will go for and what Simpson will get, if proven guilty, are two entirely different things. "He's going to try to walk away," Billups said, "on involuntary manslaughter."

The Bay Area Reporter called Simpson's attorney, Charles Bonner, to ask if he was preparing a defense based on the notorious "homosexual panic" defense.

Bonner denied any plans to employ that defense and claimed not to know what it signified. He said the killing had been unintentional (involuntary) and had had nothing to do with McGaffney's being a Gay man. He then asserted that Simpson was a straight man. He then declined further comment.

Counseling Services For Lesbian Parents

Lyon-Martin Clinic announces counseling services for Lesbian parents and Lesbians who are considering parenthood. The counseling services will be provided by Cheryl Jones, a Lesbian mother of a four-year-old child. Cheryl has done individual and group counseling in the East Bay for several years.

The counseling services will also offer couple and family mediations to intervene when difficulties parenting together arise.

All services will be offered on a sliding scale, by appointment only. Presently, services are offered on Wednesday evenings at the Clinic. Other times and East Bay locations may also be arranged. Please call Lyon-Martin Clinic for more information. 641-0220.

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THIS

FRIDAY 16

- Jack Fritscher: author of *Corporal in Charge of Taking Care of Captain O'Malley* and *Leather Blues*, will sign his books at the Ambush, 1351 Harrison St., S.F., 6 PM. Hors d'oeuvres, books available in leather shop.
- Mark I. Chester and Michael Rosen: Open studio party, 6 to 10 PM. Call 621-6294 for address.
- Lisa Francis and Melissa Hawkins: comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- Tom Ammiano: comedy, The Other Cafe, 100 Carl St., S.F., 8 and 10 PM.
- Gay Relations: lecture/workshop, the FOG House, 2038 22 Ave., S.F., 8 PM, \$4 members, \$6 guests. Conducted by Rodney Karr, co-director of the Gay Men's Therapy Center.
- Beach Blanket Babylon: stage performance, Club Fugazi, 678 Green St., S.F., 8 and 10:30 PM, \$16. The holiday version begins.
- Bob Ernst and Wayne Doba: stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. *The Performer* and *The Pocket Organizer* will be performed.
- Otherwise Engaged: stage performance, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley, 8 PM, \$11 to \$14.50. Simon Gray's scathing comedy directed by Richard E.T. White.
- Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris: cabaret, the Barn Theatre, Marin Art and Garden, Ross, 8:30 PM, call 456-9555 for reservations.
- The Quintessential Image and After Eleven: stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, cover. Theatre Rhino opens its season with two one-act plays, *The Quintessential Image* by Jane Chambers, and *After Eleven* by Victor Bumbalo.
- Finders Keepers and The Window Shopper: stage performance, Studio Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. The Studio opens its season with a play by Jay Byron Laws, with *Real Life Romance* by J.H. Ross.
- Jane and the Family Jewels: stage performance, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 9 and 11 PM, \$6. Starring Jane Dornacker.
- Jazz: dance class, Pride Center Auditorium, 890 Hayes St. at Fillmore, S.F., 6 to 7:30 PM, free. Beginning jazz taught by Ron Petersen. Wear gym clothes or loose clothing.

SATURDAY 17

- John Preston: author of *Mr. Benson*, *I Once Had a Master*, *Sweet Dreams*, and *Classified Affairs*, will be at the Studstore, 960 Folsom St., S.F., 3 to 6 PM.
- American Uniform Association, Bay Area Brigade Chapter: cocktails, dinner, Don Ramon's 225 11th St., S.F., 7 PM. Call 626-5267 for reservations.
- Mark I. Chester and Michael Rosen: open studio party, 2 to 6 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- Tom Ammiano: comedy (see Friday listing for details).
- Libertarians for Gay and Lesbian Concerns: meeting, 6 PM, call 931-3104 for location. Potluck dinner followed by business meeting and guest speaker, Paul Hardman of the American Association for Personal Privacy, who will discuss the bathhouse situation.
- Beach Blanket Babylon: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- SFSU Poetry Center: readings by Victor Martinez and Jose Montoya, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 3 PM, \$3.
- Gay Comedy Night: comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. With Laurie Bushman, Danny Williams, and Marga Gomez.
- Bob Ernst and Wayne Doba: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Otherwise Engaged: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris: cabaret (see Friday listing for details).
- The Quintessential Image and After Eleven: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Finders Keepers and The Windowshopper: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- Jane and the Family Jewels: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

SUNDAY 18

- Chevere: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM.



Wayne Doba in *The Performer*, on a double bill with Valencia Rose.

- Bill Folk: music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.
- Crossover: music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 2 PM, \$4. Gwendolyn Watson and John Toenjes with their blend of cello and harpsichord.
- Ruth Jovel and Marga Gomez: comedy/music, Mame's, 389 Bay St., at Mason, S.F., 8 PM, \$4.
- John Preston: author of *Mr. Benson*, *I Once Had a Master*, *Franny*, *Sweet Dreams*, and *Classified Affairs*, will be at the Walt Whitman Bookshop, 2319 Market St., S.F., 8 PM. Call 861-3078 for reservations.
- Mark I. Chester and Michael Rosen: open studio party, 2 to 6 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus: beer bust and song fest, SF Eagle, 389 12th St., S.F., 3 to 6 PM, \$6. Hot dogs, hamburgers, potato salad, macaroni salad, corn on the cob, and all the beer you can drink.
- G40+: meeting, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., 2 PM. Cabaret ala Wade Pierce.
- San Francisco FrontRunners: run at Lake Merced, begins 10 AM at Lake Merced boathouse, off Skyline Blvd. One to 4 1/2 miles.
- Drop-in VD Clinic: sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7 to 9 PM. Free and confidential. Testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, etc., also counseling and referrals. Call 644-0425 for more information.
- Marin AIDS Support Network: fundraiser, San Rafael, 1 to 5 PM, \$15. Call 488-0885 for more info.

WEEK



bill with Bob Ernst in *The Pocket Organizer*, now at the

766 Valencia St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$3. Co-emcees Tom Ammiano and Mario Mondelli host new comedy talent.

• **Debbie Saunders and Lady Bianca:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 11 PM. An R&B double bill.

TUESDAY 20

• **Artist Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance, The Studio, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. A collaborative effort of 13 Bay Area Gay and Lesbian artists that delivers new insights into the deepening AIDS crisis.

• **Eye Gallery Benefit:** music, comedy, and poetry, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.

• **First Lesbian/Gay Brigade to Nicaragua:** organizational meeting, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., S.F., 7:15 PM. Call 864-5821, ext. 16, or 465-8149 for more information.

• **Asian American Theater Company:** fundraiser, Veteran's Building, 401 Van Ness Ave., S.F., 7 to 9:30 PM. Help the theater company survive.

• **Yoga and Meditation Class:** for people with AIDS and their lovers, 10 AM to noon. Call 921-4471 for more information.

• **Otherwise Engaged:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Addie:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.

• **International Folk Dancing:** dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No preregistration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 21

• **Sister Boom Boom and Jon Sugar:** comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5.

• **Artists Involved with Death and Survival:** stage performance (see Tuesday listing for details).

• **David Lambie interviews Warren Hinkle:** about his new book, *Gaylayer*, KPFA (94 FM) 4:30 to 6 PM. Plus part two of an interview with Rob Epstein, director of *The Times of Harvey Milk*.

• **Fruitpunch:** radio, KPFA (94 FM), 10 to 11 PM. David Lambie presents his documentary on the assassination of Harvey Milk and the White Night riot.

• **Tom Ammiano:** comedy, Chaps, 375 11th St., S.F., 9 PM. Call 552-4983 for more information.

• **Beach Blanket Babylon:** stage performance, 8 PM, \$14 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Bonnie Hayes:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.

• **Otherwise Engaged:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **The Quintessential Image and After Eleven:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

THURSDAY 22

• **Professionals Over 30:** Thanksgiving potluck dinner. For reservations, and to coordinate food and beverages, call 824-5068.

• **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Thanksgiving Day run, begins 10 AM at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, S.F. One to five miles.

• **Beach Blanket Babylon:** stage performance, 8 PM, \$14 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Yoga and Meditation Class:** for people with AIDS and their lovers, 7 to 9 PM. Call 921-4471 for more information.

• **Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris:** cabaret (see Friday listing for details).

• **Otherwise Engaged:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Couples Group II:** ongoing drop-in support group for persons with AIDS and their lovers, Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM. Call 821-8830 or 558-9644 for more information.

• **The Quintessential Image and After Eleven:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Gwen Majors:** music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, R&B.

• **Writing Workshop:** for seniors 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7 PM. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call George Birimisa at 431-6254 for more information.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

MONDAY 19

• **The Vocal Minority:** music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. A preview of *Kidstuff*, with Jae Ross.

• **Gay Comedy Open Mike:** comedy, Valencia Rose,

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

STAGE

The AIDS Show

Artists Involved with Death and Survival and Education

by John F. Karr

Excuse me, but Theatre Rhinoceros' Artists Involved with Death and Survival—nicknamed The AIDS Show—is too personally involving. If this were a straightforward interview with the director or a chronology of the show's development, it could not convey the evening's personal impact. I was so excited and moved when I saw the show during its brief September run, I vowed to write and thank every author and member of the cast. Since I didn't fulfill that vow, I'd like them all to take this page and mail it to themselves. It's my letter of deepest thanks. To all other readers, it's my telegram: "See The AIDS Show. Stop."

I had been skeptical, perhaps afraid. The forbidding subject was a scary theatrical proposition. But AIDS is like cruising a pretty boy. You can be intimidated, flooded with insecurities. You might as well walk up and say hi, defuse the situation. With AIDS, the better our acquaintance, on a human level apart from headlines, the healthier our state of mind can be.

The artists of The AIDS Show have made their acquaintance. With the exception of a few pieces, the show was developed in a workshop, and the group conversations led them away from documentary. The workshop process, with its pooling of wisdom and communal bonding, has resulted in a stage vehicle like *A Chorus Line*, in which it's hard to separate actors from the fictional lives they portray. Some of The AIDS Show isn't fiction, and, as in *Chorus Line*, some of the actors are playing themselves. Some are performing their own scripts. On all fronts, personal involvement is heightened.

But such involvement had always been the goal. "The intention of the project," said director Leland Moss, "was to educate and empower audiences." Like street theater, the show would not just urge people to act, but supply the energy and motivation.

The street theater conception of the show displeased Moss, and he was reluctant to direct.

"I didn't want anything to do with it," he said. "Street theater preaches to the converted and has to be loud and jazzy."

Fortunately, during talks with Artistic Director Kris Gan-

non, a new approach Moss found workable was evolved.

"We decided to develop a series of vignettes that could be performed in all venues, including the streets," Moss explained. This allowed him greater flexibility, subtlety, a more personal approach.

The vignettes—monologues, brief one-act plays, songs, satires or television forms like quiz shows—are bound together by two framing devices. The first, opening and closing the show, is a dinner party whose guests are Persons With AIDS. Depictions of New Year's Eve parties from 1980 to the present form an internal link and comment on our changing values. Within this frame, any number of vignettes can be performed anywhere, from PTA meetings to bars to Halliday Plaza.

The road that wafted Leland Moss to San Francisco exposed him, in a frequently casual and fairytale manner, to some of the theater's most influential talents.

As a student at Harvard, taken with the new theories of Grotowski, he directed *The Three Sisters*.

"I assumed we'd do it conventionally," he said, "but the actors came with group exercises that were new to me. So we threw out whatever we knew about theater to approach the play as if it had no tradition behind it."

The result, he says, was "a strange amalgam of rehearsal techniques which exposed how the play worked." During their love scene, for example, Masha and Vershinin silently played cops and robbers, while their lines were delivered by the actors

playing Irina and Tusenbach, revealing similarities between the couples.

The production was successful. "I was on the path of doing experimental theater."

That path led to studies in London, and an introduction to Ellen Stewart in Paris. She had heard of his Sisters production, had instant rapport with Moss, and put him in charge of the La Mama troupe in London. That led to a resident directorship at La Mama in New York and an introduction to revisionist director Andrei Serban, who engaged Moss as assistant director. Subsequently, Moss continued experimental work, directing at Playwrights Horizon, the Lion Theatre, and the New York Shakespeare Festival. He continued acting, appearing in the pre-Streisand Broadway version of *Yentl*. But alongside the rapid succession of trendsetting names and productions was life in New York. Its pace and excess dogged him simultaneously with artistic problems.

"I never said I was leaving the theater, but I looked for other things to do," he said. He moved to Los Angeles in 1977, and joined the counseling staff at the Gay Community Service Center. He engaged a spiritual teacher, explored religious paths, studied a branch of Tibetan yoga after moving to Berkeley, and settled down working for a publishing firm. Although satisfied, he soon found parts of himself unfulfilled, which led to his resuming acting earlier this year. The AIDS Show came up soon after, and Moss' expertise with rehearsal technique and group process, as well as his spiritual resources,

(Continued on next page)



Four Boys from Sweden—(l.-r.) Bengt Olsson, Christer Lindarw, Kim Franch, and Nils-Albert Eriksson in one of the spectacular numbers from *After Dark*.

After Dark

Swedish Dancers Extend, Audition, and Discuss Their Sexual Mystique

by Steve Warren

The ads for *After Dark*, the Swedish revue that's been extended through Dec. 1 at the Alcazar, feature a glamorous showgirl in feathers and a g-string. They suggest a show on the order of the Las Vegas revues inspired by the Folies Bergere.

The difference, which has hardly surprised San Franciscans, is that the showgirl is actually a showboy. He's Christer Lindarw, and he created *After Dark* in Sweden eight years ago. It opened, he said, in a club which was, as is common in Europe, Gay one day a week—on Sundays.

The Gay community discovered the show and started bringing friends and co-workers until audiences were delightfully mixed.

"People got used to seeing other kinds of people," Lindarw says. "We can't take all the credit for it, it's just what was happening at the time—with David Bowie and bisexuality and all in the late seventies."

Now that the show has a broad following in Sweden, Finland, and Spain, and has been seen on television all over Europe and cable TV in the U.S., the cast doesn't discuss their sexuality for the record.

"We want to be judged for what we do, not what we are," Lindarw says.

His optimistic report on the situation in Sweden—"Homosexuality is so accepted now at home that they don't care. Teenagers are so free-minded, they love who they want and if it's a boy or a girl it doesn't matter"—is not echoed by Catarina Olog, whose position with *After Dark* translates as executive producer.

"Some of the cast are Gay and some are not," she says, "(but) some people in Sweden do not approve of Gay people, and they would not come (to the show) if we said that."

People who go to *After Dark* for a little touch of old Sweden are as doomed to disappointment as those who go to see female showgirls. There's one Swedish song in the show, and one real woman, Pia Leo Berglund, in the nine-member cast. English is a required subject in Swedish schools, and most of the show has always been done in our language. The majority of musical numbers are mimed to records, such as Lindarw's med-

ley from "Color Me Barbra"—"but I'm not doing Streisand. I'm a circus princess singing to a clown; we just use that record"—and the rest sung live to taped orchestration.

"After one year you're so tired of just imitating stars," Lindarw says recalling the show's origins. "We put our own personalities into it." They've created situations and characters to fit the songs, and in one case Lindarw created the song itself. He was inspired to write "You Gotta Change Your Personality," Olog says, when he was barred from entering a place because of his casual attire.

Now one of Sweden's best-known personalities, Lindarw can go anywhere he wants; but the song, an attack on conformity, remains in the show. Its creator, whose delicate features are framed by long, two-tone blond hair, says the "California surfer boy" look has enjoyed renewed popularity in Sweden since the onset of the physical fitness trend a few years ago.

Male and female roles are interchangeable in *After Dark*.

"I play Boy George in one number," points out Berglund, the token woman in the cast. "It's not who's doing the numbers. It's the show that's important."

The Swedes fell instantly in love with San Francisco, and are looking forward to seeing more of America after proving their commercial viability here. They're presently said to be weighing offers from New York, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and the Bahamas.

After Dark holds its first American auditions Saturday, Nov. 17, from noon to 4 at the Alcazar, an open call to replace one male dancer.



The people who brought you The AIDS Show (Photo: Mark I. Chester)

TALES OF TESSI TURA

Show Stoppers

GEORGE HLYMONT

Certain set numbers within operatic literature can make or break a show. An ethereal rendition of "Una furtiva lagrima" by an appealing tenor, or an other-worldly "Casta Diva" from a majestic soprano may well live on in history. Conversely, an off-pitch "O patria mia" from a lousy Aida, or a mad scene ruined by a technically inept Lucia de Lammermoor will outrage most opera queens beyond belief.

And yet they keep coming back for more. Why? In some cases, these arias—which represent the ultimate in musical challenge for vocal artist-athletes—are the best reasons for attending a performance. Not only are these solo pieces extremely demanding tests of breath control and musicianship, more often than not they serve to focus the entire dramatic thrust of an operatic score. Musical foreplay is fun. But when it comes to shooting off—especially if it can be done with a mighty display of vocal pyrotechnics there's no getting around the electric thrill of one big vocal orgasm.

YA GOTTA RING THEM BELLS

While most opera queens will probably claim to have memorized the Bell Song long ago, few are acquainted with the remaining wealth of beautiful music to be found within the pages of Delibes' *Lakme*. This sumptuous score, chock-full of romantic schmaltz, has always been a great favorite of mine for inspiring tranquility and reducing me to a state of weak-kneed, dewy-eyed sentimentality. Alas, *Lakme* has been absent from the standard repertoire for far too long. This season it was given a new production by the New York City Opera, using the same sets and costumes seen in Chicago in 1983. Unfortunately, NYCO chose to cut much of the ballet music from the second act—a most regrettable decision.

All things considered, City Opera's *Lakme* was a mixed success. The subtitles helped, but the overall quality of singing was less than one could have hoped for. The sets looked cramped, and Fabrizio Melano's direction in Acts I and III lacked bite. As the Hindu heroine, Gianna Rolandi sounded tense for most of the performance, but came through in spades with a brilliantly delivered Bell Song. In Acts I and III, her top notes seemed tighter

than in the past, and the soprano's acting was far from her usually credible work. Thankfully, though, the intense focus with which Rolandi delivered her Bell Song made the entire venture worthwhile, although I was quite disgusted to see two opera queens get up and leave the theater as soon as the aria was finished.

The rest of the performance gave the pleasantly numbing sensation of exotic schmaltz. Although Barry McCauley's Gerald occasionally sounded strained and pinched, Susanne Marsee's Mallika and James Clark's Hadji were solidly sung. Imre Pallo conducted with an air of imported saccharine and romantic anesthesia.

QUEEN FOR A DAY

An unfortunate sense of anesthesia hovered over the opening night of the San Francisco Opera's *Anna Bolena*. Using John Pascoe's dark, dour sets, and Michael Stennett's highly evocative costumes on loan from the Canadian Opera Company in Toronto, this production spent several hours idling its way around the stage of the War Memorial in search of a purpose. That goal was finally realized at the very end of the evening when Dame Joan Sutherland stood up and, quite literally, plowed her way through



"One queen isn't enough?" asks Anne Boleyn (Dame Joan Sutherland) of her husband, King Henry VIII in Donizetti's *Anna Bolena*.

another one of Donizetti's fiendishly difficult mad scenes.

Although Sutherland may possess the brute strength and durability of an aircraft carrier, Donizetti's opera does not. This particular production creaked and groaned its way through most of the evening. Some of its sluggishness was due, no doubt, to the darkness of the sets and to Lotfi Mansouri's stubbornly mechanical stage direction. Two fine artists, bass Kevin Langan and tenor Rockwell Blake, were singing at less than their usual best. Mezzo-soprano Livia Budai sounded like a vacuum cleaner on reverse, and spent most of the performance woofing her way around the stage with the subtlety of a Mack truck. The woman's work is the opposite of bel canto.

The opera's final mad scene—which by all rights should be a thrilling climax—failed to inject the necessary electricity into the proceedings. Unfortunately, by the time Anne Boleyn's extended solo rolled around, the spark had long since gone out of the evening. One has to admire Dame Joan's rock-solid musicianship, physical stamina, artistic commitment, and sheer determination to succeed. As she nears 60, Sutherland remains an acoustical and architectural wonder—a testament to an artist's longevity and dedication to her work. Alas, not even a monumental display of vocal technique by one of this century's greatest artists could light the fire necessary to burn the house down on this particular occasion.

The AIDS Show

(Continued from previous page)

were all tapped for one project.

In developing *The AIDS Show*, "I went by intuition," said Moss. "Over forty people came to the initial development meeting. Most were writers. Some were actors who wanted to make their contribution."

After choosing actors, Moss had to deal with the authors' contributions. We had a marathon four-and-a-half-hour reading to present everything they'd brought in. Then we voted for the pieces that would be included in the final show.

The selection, as previously indicated, is wide-ranging in style and format. Seeking to educate through entertainment, information has been cunningly spun into stories. Death is not (cannot) be skirted—although the image of the scythe-wielding Spectre of Death in drag strikes me as too Gay to have been omitted—but is dealt with reasonably. As one character says, speaking of our sexual mores, "We are out to enjoy ourselves, not kill each other."

The sharp edge of Gay wit is expected, and present in generous doses. An appreciated surprise is the restraint, clarity, and truthfulness of the writing. Artists Involved with Death and Survival could have been bitter and self-pitying, but is both gallant and funny. It is not without tears, but our tears of sorrow are leavened with tears of renewal.

"I always assumed we'd grow old together," says a man in the show, mourning the death of his lover. "I had always assumed we'd grow old."

AIDS has weakened that expectation, but *The AIDS Show* is the right corrective. While *The AIDS Show* delivers information and facts, its main wonder and accomplishment are its strength and joy.

J. F. Karr

The AIDS Show opens in Studio Rhino on Nov. 20, with performances Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. 861-5079.

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A Bigger Splash

Hackneyed Hockney

Lasky's Law #1: A film is in deep trouble when it takes longer to read its press kit than it takes to view the film itself.

Produced in 1975, Jack Hazan's *A Bigger Splash* is about the world of Gay painter David Hockney. It's easy to see why it has taken nine years for it to get a theatrical release.

Incredibly self indulgent, excessively static and enigmatic, and hopelessly meandering, it focuses on a number of years in Hockney's and his friends' lives as they go about their day-to-day life. We get to eavesdrop on boring, meaningless (to us) conversations, watch voyeuristic and embarrassingly self-conscious Gay lovemaking, and watch people get out of cars, ring door bells, stare at artworks, etc.

The characters in this cinema verite drama all play themselves, which is a problem in and of itself. Filmed much like those

late '60s, early '70s Warhol opuses, there is no general direction or point attempted. Just turn the camera on and let real people do and say what they will. The result is much like that of Hockney's canvasses. Still life.

Admission: I left the film half way through its seemingly 49-hour running time. When I started falling asleep I knew there just had to be more interesting conversations—and lives—to listen in on. ■

(Gateway) M. Lasky

Garbo Talks

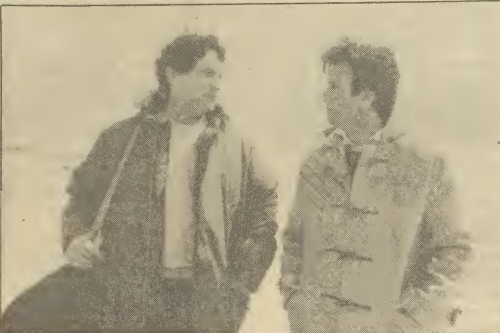
What Might Have Been

Despite his sensitive work on *Dog Day Afternoon*, we know Sidney Lumet isn't Gay because no self-respecting faggot could have screwed up *The Wiz* the way he did. *Garbo Talks* is a movie a Gay man might—perhaps should—have made; but Lumet has done a good job, even with his "handicap." He pours on the sentiment a bit too thickly, but redeems himself with nice moments throughout and a joyous finale.

Anne Bancroft plays a woman who's literally dying to meet Greta Garbo. Well, she's dying anyway—after a lifetime of liberal activism ("She wouldn't cross a picket line for her own son's wedding!")—and meeting Garbo is her last wish. The burden of finding the elusive actress falls on Bancroft's son, Ron Silver.

Now if I had a mother like her, I'd be Gay. In fact, I did and I am. Silver isn't, as he tells Harvey Fierstein on the ferry to Fire Island where he's following one of many false leads to Garbo. Harvey takes it well: "The older I get the less I care about sex. I'm looking for someone I can talk to."

Fierstein is on screen for less than five minutes, after which there's a cut to Bancroft reading *Fruits of Our Labor*. Heroinie Gingold has a three-



"Your Mother's a Trip!" Harvey Fierstein (l.) tells Ron Silver, whose mother, Anne Bancroft, has sent her straight son on a trip to Fire Island, in *Garbo Talks*.

minute part, Dorothy Loudon appears for four minutes, and Howard da Silva for five. A taste of these wonderful people is better than nothing.

Bancroft's *tour de force* central role includes a six-minute monologue most actresses would kill for, even if they had to follow it with a real death scene. Silver has a less showy, more demanding assignment, which requires him to portray 27 different shades of frustration and three catharses. Carrie Fisher is believable as Silver's wife,

who speaks "two languages, English and Gucci." Catherine Hicks, so Mary Tyler Moore in *The Razor's Edge*, proves more adept at romantic comedy as an aspiring actress who's more Silver's type.

It's fun to speculate on the movie *Garbo Talks* might have been if it were made by and about Gays, but Lumet's movie is almost enough fun as it is. ■

(Galaxy) S. Warren

The River Rat

Rat Cheer

Jonsy, as played by Martha Plimpton, looks like the late Brandon de Wilde somewhere between Shane and Hud. At 12 she's still a "tomboy," but we know what she'll be in a couple of years—despite her protestation, "I ain't no lesbie"—if she doesn't go through a lot of changes.

The *River Rat* is the story of some of those changes, effected through a reunion with her father (Tommy Lee Jones) who's been in prison since before she was born. Daddy's withdrawn and bitter at first, not too appreciative of her curiosity: "Is it true... guys in prison rape each other? When guys rape each other, what do they do exactly?"

It doesn't take long to get the Rat cheer flowing, as papa Billy helps Jon-

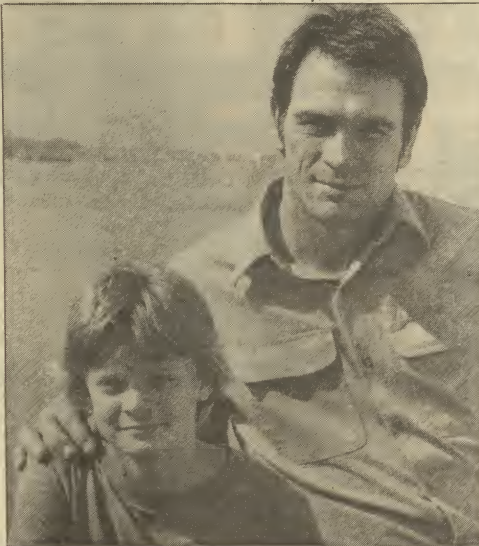
sy rebuild a boat, *The River Rat*, and they sail downriver to Memphis.

The only trouble is, they're pursued by Billy's evil rehabilitation officer, Brian Dennehy, who's after the money Billy was sent up for stealing. Also on board is nine-year-old scene-stealing stowaway Shawn Smith.

Despite Jonsy's precocious language, *The River Rat* is an innocuous teenage adventure of the Mark Twain variety, complete with ghost stories by the campfire and a climax in a graveyard. This was the intent of writer Tom Rickman (Coal Miner's Daughter), who drew on facts and fancies of his boyhood for this film which also marks a capable directorial debut for him.

The *River Rat* is a pleasant way to discharge your babysitting duties, or spend a nostalgic Saturday afternoon at the movies. ■

(Cannery) S. Warren



Daddy's Little Woman—Tommy Lee Jones and Martha Plimpton weather some rough sailing in *The River Rat*.

Comfort and Joy

Sad Tidings

"I'm a serious kind of guy," says Bill Paterson with all the seriousness a character known as "Dickie Bird" can muster. The trouble is, he's serious about being serious. That's what's wrong with *Comfort and Joy*, the first "serious comedy" from Bill Forsyth, who kept us laughing through his first three films, most notably *Gregory's Girl*. There's a bit of whimsy to keep the new movie from being a total drudge, but it's no laughing matter.

Dickie's a morning DJ, supposedly a cut-up, but so low-key that after his "gilt" leaves him it's hard to tell his depressed self from his jovial air personality. A bit of contrast here would be good for a chuckle or two.

He finds a new interest in life when he gets involved in an attempt by Italian gangsters to control all the ice cream trucks in Glasgow. This is the Forsyth Touch in action—a fight over ice cream by grown men using the names Mr. Bunny and Mr. McCool. It's like the children playing with whipped cream guns in *Bugsy Malone*, for Forsyth is too gentle to suggest that Mafiosi might actually hurt each other, or to let his actors act really menacing. This is also where Mark Knopfler's score lets him down, although the overused mournful sax theme and other incidental bits are good.

By the end of *Comfort and Joy* nothing, including the protagonist, is what it seemed to be in the beginning—except perhaps for the expressions in the audience: glassy stares waiting for something to laugh at. ■

(Opera Plaza) S. Warren

No Small Affair

Extremely Small Affair

Just in time for Thanksgiving, Columbia gives us this glibble gobble goo, a wretched, leering "comedy" with not a likeable character to be found. Filmed in San Francisco, it's about a 16-year-old photography whiz who

(Continued on next page)

FILM CLIPS

cont. from previous page

gets a crush on a 22-year-old rock singer and goes to extreme lengths to make her return the favor.

There is not a believable moment or piece of dialogue, and the actors earnestly deliver the hopeless claptrap as if the script was written by Harold Pinter.

Jon Cryer, as the kid, is too homely for words, so when he finally gets his dream of bedding down with the rock singer Demi Moore, the audience scrambles to find a barf bag. Demi

Moore has a screen magnetism that is heavy on the demi and weak on the more.

Buy why go on, with a film that reeks of terminal cuteness as directed by Jerry Schatzberg.

The only saving grace is a bit part of a French teacher played winningly by local actor Joe Lerer. He's terrific, but then again, he's also my landlord.

(Cinema 21)

M. Lasky

Phar Lap

Australian Velvet

There's a bunkhouse full of young men in *Phar Lap* to inspire your stable boy fantasies. Unfortunately, most of them quickly retire to Central Casting while the least attractive of the lot, Tom Burlinson (*The Man from Snowy River*) stays on as the leading man.

More important is the leading horse Burlinson trains, the title character, who also starts out as the runt of his litter. The true story of a champion, *Phar Lap* wouldn't be movie fodder if he didn't begin as an underhorse. But once he hits his stride, the only way he can keep from winning is by not running. With big money at stake, quite a few people would like to see that *Phar Lap* doesn't run; so more of the film's suspense hangs on that ques-

tion, rather than whether he'll cross the finish line first.

Ron Liebman, acting less obnoxious than usual, plays the horse's American owner who is hated first for being Jewish and then for being successful. Martin Vaughan is the trainer who spots the New Zealand horse's potential when no one else can; they name him *Phar Lap* (lightning) as a joke.

Australia's most expensive film ever at the time of its making, *Phar Lap* is one of those good pictures that isn't outstanding enough in any respect to stir up excitement. A nice job is done of recreating the 1928-32 period, including the use of such old songs as:

"When I pretend I'm gay
I never feel that way.
I'm only painting the clouds with
sunshine..."

(Alexandria)

S. Warren



Richard Edson (l.), Eszter Balint, and John Lurie get a taste of western decadence in *Stranger Than Paradise*.

Stranger than Paradise

Strange, Yes, But Funny

Considering there is no semblance of plot, only small talk dialogue, only two camera angles (left and right), discordant music, and not overly attractive actors, it is strange indeed that Jim Jarmusch's black and white film, *Stranger than Paradise*, is still oddly appealing.

His style is static, with jarring blackouts inserted between each short scene. The characters say little or nothing, and interaction is restrained. So why is it, then, that we get hook-

ed, even though everything is working against our enjoying it?

I think it's because Jarmusch has captured a wonderfully deadpan quality that makes the complete mundane everyday life of unimaginative, simple people seem funny.

Hungarian immigrant John Lurie has been in New York a few years when his cousin Eszter Balint arrives for a new life in America. At first he feels put upon to let her stay in his small studio apartment, but she quickly proves she is hipper than some girl just off the boat. When she moves to Cleveland to be with their old world Aunt Lotte (Cecilia Stark), he and his slow friend Richard Edson borrow a

car to visit her. They rescue her from the boring midwestern winter, and take off for the paradise of Florida.

That's the entire plot. It's how they perceive the world with little or no expectations that keeps the film from ever getting boring. In fact, it is what gives it its strange charm. These people, despite their lack of pretention or cleverness, are survivors. How they cope with nothing is what it's all about. They can just stare into the camera (and they do that often) and we laugh.

You walk out of this movie and wonder why you liked it. Liking is all that matters when the rainbow is enuf.

(Opera Plaza)

M. Lasky

One Night Stands

Films of Gay Interest This Coming Week
by Michael Benzry

Thursday, Nov. 15: (Strand) Times Square Strip and Adam and Ives. Raw, all male pornography within sight of the Mayor's office. Oh, the shame of it.

Thursday-Saturday, Nov. 15-17: (Roxie) Curt McDowell directs *Sparkle's Tavern* with George Kuchar. Mom doesn't know about the back room action in the sleazy bar that her children run, but she finds out.

Tuesday, Nov. 20: (Strand) Curt McDowell's *Thundercrack* thunders with laughter. Delightful old dark house on a stormy night with some wonderful pornography and bestiality thrown in for the fun of it. This is a great film. With George Kuchar's *The Comedy of Underground* and *Tricia's Wedding*.

Wednesday, Nov. 21: (York) *The Hunger*. To be beautiful, immortal, and bisexual. Sounds like the perfect situation, but after 3,000 years those ex-lovers pile up, in this case in the attic. Beautifully filmed, violent, and erotic.

TELEVISION

MICHAEL LASKY

The Pen and the Sword

MASTER HAROLD AND THE BOYS

(Showtime, Nov. 16, 6:30 p.m. (check local listings for subsequent airings.)

With a single set, just three characters, and wall to wall talk, Athol Fugard's exploration of racism in South Africa is not the type of drama one would expect to find on television. But let's be glad the Showtime pay cable network has put it there.

Performed in one continuous 90-minute act, the play was edited by 10 minutes with the assistance of the playwright, who wanted to make it tauter than the stage version.

What seems like idle, superficial banter for the first half of the play is in fact a necessary set up. It establishes the relationship between Master Harold, played with proper stiffness by Matthew Broderick (*Brighton Beach Memoirs/Wargames*) and the boys, two black South Africans, Zakes Mokae and John Kani, both from the original Broadway production.

The teenager has fond memories of growing up with the two men who work in his parents' coffee shop (where the "action" takes place). We see that he is close to them, even if he is somewhat patronizing. Despite the convivial camaraderie the three share, there is an underlying tension that gradually increases until it culminates in a traumatic explosion in the latter part of the play.

There is much wisdom in *Master Harold and the Boys*, much of which is directly

translatable to the place of the Gay person in a straight society. Do people really accept Gays or do they merely pretend to, while secretly believing they are superior?

Broderick, who has proven his ability as a fine actor already, comes through here brilliantly, complete with a palpable Afrikaans accent. Zakes Mokae and John Kani as the two black men create compassionate characters who have more dignity than their country is willing to allow them to have.

The TV version of this great drama reveals the strength and vision that television can have.

ROBIN HOOD: THE SWORDS OF WAYLAND

(Showtime, 11/17 and 11/22-8 PM, and 11/25 and 11/30-6 PM)

On a lighter note is this well-conceived British production, a continuing series of swords and sorcerers fantasies. Although created for TV, this two-hour film plays more like a theatrical movie with stunning photography, evocative music, and acting that makes us almost believe it's a true story, not the myth it is.

Michael Praed, as Robin Hood, is a finely chiseled, black-haired beauty with incredibly seductive eyes. In fact, he's prettier than Maid Marian (Judy Trotter).

This is the type of program that brings quality to a genre usually lacking in it. If it were to appear on network television, it would create a cult of fans. ■

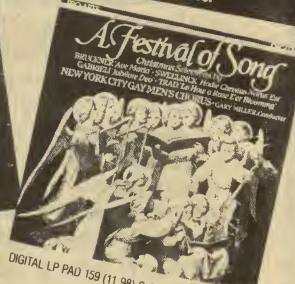
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MUSIC

Sing, Sing, Sing

by Dianne Gregory

On my way to see Canteen, the San Francisco Band Foundation's annual salute to the '40s at the Japantown Theatre last Saturday, I saw a man with a beard in a sailor's uniform driving along. He reminded me of Sluggo, the meanie in Popeye, and I marveled that the Navy allowed its men to sport beards, and that he had been in port long enough to own or even rent a car.

Silly me. Half the audience at the show was in uniform or clothing of the period, and I later saw Sluggo in the lobby. Watching men in standard '80s leather uniform eye those in '40s get up, or spotting an "Ammo Annie" from across the room, was half the fun. Taxi dancing and a Greta Garbo Look-a-like contest were added attractions.

But the show. That's what everyone had come for. For the most part it was well-conceived, well-executed, and nearly always regaling. From "In the Mood" to "Begin the Beguine," from the Vocal Minority to the S.F. Flag Corps, the show had something for everyone.

Really outstanding performances were given by the Vocal Minority, the S.F. Tap Troupe, and a new group called City Swing. The beautiful harmonies fashioned by the Vocal Minority in "The Nearness of You" gave way to an upbeat "In the Mood" that almost brought the house down. The Tap Troupe dazzled to "Big City Blues" and Irving Berlin's "Let Yourself Go," and two of its members, Lee Gray and Vicki Hall Suemnicht, performed a really masterful dance to Cole Porter's "Begin the Beguine."

City Swing, the result of hard work by Wayne Love, the piano player for the Concert Band, was the surprise of the evening. A tribute to Duke Ellington and a rousing rendition of "Pennsylvania Polka" highlighted the band's sound, which although not as tight as a Benny Goodman or a Duke Ellington might wish for, was more than adequate to the occasion.

The Concert Band, directed by Lesesne Van Antwerp with much enthusiasm, ranged from somnolent and funereal in the

show's opening number, "Victory at Sea" by Richard Rogers, to racy in Cole Porter's "My Heart Belongs to Daddy," to absolutely frenetic in Benny Goodman's "Sing, Sing, Sing." The Mixed Chorus gave the poorest performance of the evening. It has more people than the Vocal Minority and about half the vocal power. Some of its harmonies bordered on grating.

No matter the range of caliber in the performances, what was important about the evening was that it brought a Gay sensibility to the music of the '40s.

For example, the opening number of the second act, "Let's Face the Music and Dance" by Irving Berlin, began with a pantomime of a sailor approaching several men in a group of men and women. Everyone left the stage except the sailor and one of the men, and after a pause they went into one another's arms with a flourish. The audience went wild. And when Jack Mahan sang a solo of "Treat Me Rough" by "George Gershwin and his lovely sister Ira," the double entendre gave the song a whole new meaning.

More than just a concert, the hard work by the S.F. Band Foundation "family" brought us an evening to remember. ■



Canteen's grand finale (Photo: Rink)

Educated Guess

by Bernard Spunberg

J.S. Bach had it all. His music can withstand interpretation by electronic synthesizers, Japanese kotos, and gigantic symphony orchestras, and it still sounds natural and right. In recent years, however, scholarly fashion has aimed at recreating sounds Bach himself heard. Trouble is, all the research in the world produces nothing more than educated guesses. We'll never know exactly what kind of string tone Bach liked, how firmly he marked his rhythms, even how fast he wanted his music played.

On Nov. 9, the young Hungarian conductor, Ivan Fischer, led the San Francisco Symphony, soprano Sylvia McNair, and organist John Fenstermaker in interpretations that adhered to performance practice followed by most contemporary symphony orchestras. Except for the brilliant Baroque trumpets, the wind players performed on their usual modern instruments. The ensemble was no larger than one Bach might have had at his disposal.

Fischer's performances of the *Overtures 1 and 3*, which are suites of dances, featured springy, propulsive rhythms. Fischer allowed for the tiny breaths between sections that underline the strength of Bach's construction. Solo passages for violins, and especially those for woodwinds and trumpet, were assertive and virtuosic. In

little more zip, a little more personality.

No lack of personality diminished soprano McNair's performance of the cantata "Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen." McNair's smile, if not her voice, filled the hall. Small and silvery, McNair's voice disappeared at both the bottom and top of her range. But never mind. McNair faced the audience and the music with irrepressible high spirits. Her personal charm and essential musicianship reduced critical qualms to nitpicking.

'McNair's smile, if not her voice, filled the hall.'

general, however, the two *Overtures* lacked characterization that separates a good performance from a great one. Fischer's dotted rhythms were musical and correct, but they weren't jubilant. Melodies were beautiful, but they didn't blossom. Too much characterization, of course, risks distortion, a crime of which Fischer was never guilty. Still, he could have added a

Organist John Fenstermaker triumphed in the Sinfonia to the cantata "Wir musen durch viel Trubsal in das Reich Gottes engehen." The title's a chewy mouthful, but the performance bounded along with rock-solid rhythms. Fenstermaker's performance appeared to inspire Fischer and the orchestra. Or maybe they were all inspired by the music itself. ■

FROM FIFTH POSITION

The Carousel Effect

KEITH WHITE

Small Towns and Other Heroes is a dance theater collaboration directed by Sara Shelton Mann, a new age choreographer and teacher who worked in New York City for a number of years before basing herself in the Bay Area. Her principal collaborators, multidisciplinary artists Rinde Eckert and Byron Brown, are apparently known in the San Francisco dance/theater/music scene, as are the other performers who appeared in the three works which comprised the 90-minute program at the New Performance Gallery.

"Several Small Towns" begins as its trio of performers enters the stage via the house center aisle, all speaking Italianese gibberish and gesturing stereotypically. Nancy Bryan, John Henry, and Brook Klehm were costumed in the loose clothes and bare feet of contemporary dancers, yet their initial efforts were as players, and a theatrical focus predominated the entire evening. Later, modern dance movement emerged, to alternate with gestural/dramatic segments throughout the duration of the work.

Alteration is the main creative tool in this piece. The trio reduced itself to duets, and back again. Chairs, used as set pieces, were brought on and removed several times. Additional clothing was added and subtracted. The several vocal dialects that were introduced also came and went; I believe it even transposed into German at one point. In this work the voice was used in an abstract manner, more as a sound effect than as literal communication. These aspects sum up both the structure and the content of "Several Small Towns," a carousel of effects about as arresting as the view from a fast moving bus through the streets of a busy city on a rainy, foggy day.

Occasional duets were no more powerful and provided no true repose. One section for Bryan and Henry involved the careful balancing of large rocks on the backs of their necks while seated in chairs. At times, Mann seemed to attempt to discharge the mounting boredom of the piece by making the content more ridiculous, altering the accompanying speech, speeding it up, repeating the word or phrase many times, or making

the voice more guttural. At one point it began to sound like hiccups. Sara Shelton Mann's stated purpose includes something about facing "our similarly 'schizophrenic' lives with humor rather than angst." The audience that night was a small one, no doubt composed of friends of the company and other artists who are similarly inclined; some people laughed. But Mann's brand of humor is too obscure, not nearly broad enough in its aim.

"The Hero," also by Sara Shelton Mann, had choreography based, the program advised, on 71 sports photos in the S.F. Chronicle during the winter of 1983. The photos were on display in the lobby—as if anyone could possibly hold either the dance or the photos in mind long enough to collate them. In any case, I quickly forgot the premise once the piece began: another foray into taped sound, movement and spoken text. This piece, also a trio for two men and one woman, had in its favor a livelier movement base and slightly more vivid images. Two male dancers perform a duet as the woman speaks—most often while seated in a chair. A. Dibz, who bore a striking resemblance to Barbara Harris in the movie Nashville, performed her woozy-seated role with flair, and the two men, Brook Klehm and Craig Landry, were well-matched in proportion and energy. Still, the piece is annoyingly vague, and I could not find in it any relation to its supposed theme: "the public and private images of our heroes, their inherent and acquired power, their isolation in life and their immortality."

Small Towns and Other Heroes is an evening aligned with Eckert's view, contained in the press material, that "dance tends to be pretentious and sober. We used language and emphasized character and humor to prevent audiences from getting too intellectual." Would that there were a way to prevent choreographers from getting too intellectual. That Sara Shelton Mann's non-vocal choreography is pretentious and sober I would not doubt for a moment. But it is difficult to feel that the manipulations her current collaboration provides will enhance the audience's response to it. Language was used in a way that successfully prevented a cerebral response, but I felt anesthetized in the process. ■



Nancy Bryan (l), John Henry, and Brook Klehm in *Several Small Towns*.

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FITNESS EIGHTIES

Only in Self Defense

Black Belt Gloria Boldizar Empowers Women

by Charles Linebarger

Intervening in a fight between a man and wife can be very risky business, as Gloria Boldizar learned 12 years ago. Trying to help another woman who appeared to be in trouble, Boldizar, a tall, slender blond, found herself under attack. Not being confident in her ability to protect herself, she decided to learn self-defense. She signed up for a class at her local YWCA in Marin, and by one of those fortuitous flukes of fate, the class was in the martial art of Kenpo Karate.

"It's a very appropriate technique of self-defense," Boldizar explained over a glass of water at the Village Deli on Castro Street. "Kenpo Karate emphasizes techniques for escaping from bodyholds, knife and gun attacks, and attacks by several men at once."

Boldizar used her hands to show how she would deal with a difficult situation, while she described deadly strikes at an attacker's eyes, knee thrusts at his groin, and methods for forcing an attacker to release his grip on your throat—one way being to butt your head back into the attacker's face. Anything goes, Boldizar explained, when you're fighting in self-defense. Knowing when to bite or jam your heel into a mugger or rapist's knees or groin can be vitally important.

As Boldizar describes ways of self-protection, and shows how she would handle an attacker by jabbing and thrusting into the air with hands as taut and powerful as metal, it is easy to come to the conclusion that she would be a deadly prey for any would-be attacker.

One of the continuing benefits of Kenpo Karate, to Boldizar, as a means of self-defense, is the daily practice of being grabbed by men and dealing with the situation on the mat. She feels that this continual practice in handling an attack builds an almost instinctive response into the brain so that were she to be the victim of an attempted rape or mugging she would react automatically, using her 12

years of practice at self-defense on the unsuspecting would-be rapist or mugger. However, Boldizar doesn't expect to be the victim.

"What happens," Boldizar explained, "is that after you've learned how to defend yourself, you begin to exert a special self-confidence that repels any possible attackers. They're looking for easy prey, and you just don't fit into that category. They can see it by the way you hold yourself."

Boldizar describes a recent situation that makes her point. Three Latino teenagers came into the restaurant where she works (The Artemis Cafe on Valencia Street) and proceeded to loiter in the restroom at the back of the dining room.

"I went back there and asked them what they were doing, and one of them said, 'peeing.' I told them to go down the street and use the gas station restroom. And they did. I think they left without causing any trouble because of the confidence I was exuding because of my experience with karate."

Boldizar already has her first black belt, and is going for her second later this month. She explained that the art of Kenpo Karate embraces two distinct



Gloria Boldizar at work (Photo: Rink)

areas of practice and expertise: self-defense, which she had already described; and sparring, a traditional sport in which there are rules to play by—you are allowed to use both your hands and your feet—and in which the opponents are expected to spar,

mornings. The charge for three classes a week is \$40 a month. When she began teaching at her school in September 1983, Boldizar had 12 students. Today she has 45. The program of the teaching sessions is simple and traditional.

opponent. The movements are carefully set out by tradition.

One of Boldizar's greatest satisfactions as a teacher is working with women who have been through rape or sexual abuse as children.

"I see them change before my eyes. They're no longer in the position of a victim as they come to realize their own physical power."

Fifty percent of Boldizar's students have suffered rape or child-abuse, and one of the legacies of being the victim of these crimes is freezing when you are threatened, according to Boldizar.

"It's my job to help them get over their fears, to relax and acquire a sense of their own power. That's what I do."

Those interested in more information on Kenpo Karate, and the Kenpo Karate School for Women, can contact Gloria Boldizar at 431-9772.

... after you've learned to defend yourself, you begin to exert a special self-confidence.

—Gloria Boldizar

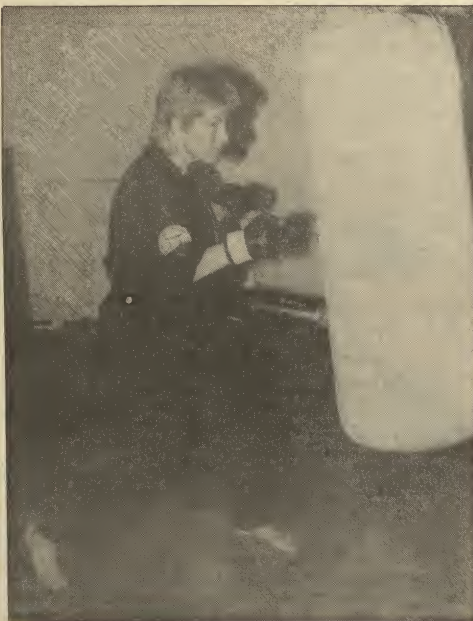
using self-restraint and courtesy toward one another.

Kenpo Karate, according to Boldizar, is more than a means of self-protection. As important as that is, it's also an ancient discipline with roots in the history of Japan. According to Boldizar, the emphasis in all the martial arts is ritual and the maintenance of tradition. The essence of Kenpo, she was taught, is respect for tradition, for the art of Kenpo, for your teacher, for the school itself, and for the other black belt athletes with whom you spar.

"Before every match," Boldizar said, "we bow low to each other. Also we never allow our belt to touch the floor. It has to be treated with respect because of what it symbolizes."

Since 1979 Boldizar has been making her living as a teacher of Kenpo Karate. Her school is in San Francisco, and her pupils are all women. The building where she has her school, near the Castro, is a "women's space." She and her students wear a special uniform for their practice and learning sessions—she teaches both beginners and intermediates, and with her black belt she is already able to teach advanced students. They wear loose black or white pants called "Gi," and a shortened kimono top made out of heavy cotton—like the sushi chefs wear at sushi bars—and of course Boldizar wears her black belt.

The classes, which last anywhere from one to two hours, are given on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Saturday



Gloria Boldizar at the punching bag (Photo: Rink)



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Playoffs!

Ah, the playoffs. The twelve-week chase is history, we're at a new starting gate, and every player involved is hoping to be in top form when it's time to sink balls. As this is written, 12 teams (70 players) are getting keyed up; as you read this, four teams have been eliminated. Next Tuesday, four more will see their foes win that decisive ninth game, and the survivors of that evening will advance to the quarterfinals. By Jan. 3, we'll all know whether the DeLuxe Spare Tires was able to repeat as City Champ.

The Big Four

It's been an exciting season. We saw DeLuxe rise from a fourth-place, ten-percentage-point deficit after four weeks, to sole possession of first by the eighth week, finishing with an 11-5 thumping of the Division II-leading Chaps Outlaws, and earning the league's best record: 126 wins against 50 losses.

For DeLuxe, Owen Bubar is in his third season as team captain, and only a glance at the lineup for the All-Star tournament (this Saturday/Sunday, Park Bowl) is needed to see the power of DeLuxe: E.Z. has played in five West Coast Challenges, has won three SFFA tournaments, and possesses the hottest winning percentage in the league—not only this season but any combination of seasons you could put together. Dave Timko has won the last two 9 Ball titles, and Rick Moore,

Brian Kelly, and Wayne Karmitz contributed the additional punch that helped DeLuxe win the top spot.

In Division II, Chaps Outlaws and Febe's were never more than two games apart until Chaps took a four-game lead after 11 weeks, finishing on top with two games to spare. Bumping shoulders with those two was Eagle Creek Chaos, tied with Chaps for first after eight weeks, and one big win away from the top the rest of the distance. Though finishing tied with Febe's, the Creek is in third due to its loss to Febe's during the season.

Chaps has Mike Macri at the helm. He's patiently improved his team since Spring '82, and he now enjoys the reward—the heady air at the top of the ladder. Along with Mike are Dennis Hall, Cory Iwatsu, Dan Rawlings, and Vince Galindo.

The two second place teams are familiar rivals, between them sharing four of the last six championships. The Stallion Int'l is captained by Colin Bradley, a Gay Games gold medalist, the only league player with championships in both 8 Ball and 9 Ball, and a West Coast Challenge champ in '80. The Stallion's one-two punch is Bradley and Dave Chua, each with glittering records this season. Teammate Bill Von Prillwitz is qualified for the elite All-Star tournament, and Tommy Sherck and Gino Smith are both seasoned players with

West Coast Challenge experience. The team wound things up with a 9-7 victory over Febe's.

There's a new face at Febe's this season, and he was elected captain first thing: Cris Lundberg is in his second year, and was the league's Most Improved Player last season. The other Febe's players all have played on West Coast Challenge championship teams, and four (Tom

deGraffenreid, Bill Kazee, Gene Miller, Ray Peterson) have SFFA tournament victories to their credit. The fifth, Rick Mariani, finished 2nd at this year's 9 Ball Championship.

Calling All Spoilers

DeLuxe, the Stallion, Chaps, and Febe's will sit out round one to take on the four winners—

odd's are that one of the four will represent SF in West Hollywood next January. You can be certain, however, the other eight teams (teams finishing 3rd through 6th) will do their utmost to beat those odds. There are some very capable players among the challengers, and a lengthy dissertation could be written detailing all the playoff upsets we've experienced. ■

G.S.L. UPDATE

TOM VINDEED

Village to Host Cal/Stanford

If you were ever a bartender who had to put up with all of us softball nuts, now is the time to "get even" because Tom Vindeed and "Flo" hit the planks at The Village, Saturday, Nov. 17, 6 a.m. to noon.

Two drink specials will be screwdrivers and Bloody Mary's at \$1 each. Let's see if Cal (screwdrivers) can outdo Stanford (Bloody Mary's) in the race for the "Village Hammer," which is to be awarded to the side that downs the most throughout the morning.

A 50/50 raffle will have all profits going to the Gay Softball League. Bill, Hank, and Dick invite everyone to their very popular bar because a fun time is planned. As you might expect, there will be many surprises,

and possibly even a challenge game of Charades.

Would you believe 35 people showed up at Chaps for the first league meeting of the '85 season? To make amends, the next meeting will be at the Vagabond, Larkin and Ellis, Dec. 8, 12 noon. Another lengthy agenda will have to be dealt with, so let's get there early.

Due to the hard work of the GSL players and friends, we netted \$350 from waiting tables at the Canteen show. Thanks to

our band and those who helped.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone. ■

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SCOREBOARD

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES

TEAM STANDINGS and PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

(League Averages are unavailable)

SUNDAY RENO

(Week 3 of 24 - as of 11/04/84)

1. Alley Cats	11	1
2. Vagabond	11	1
3. Strange Interlude	11	1
4. Phuckett!!!	9	3
5. Ball Busters	7	5
6. With Colour	5.5	6.5
7. Lucky 13	5	3
8. Gaysha Boys	4.5	7.5
9. Bowling Is Not My Life	4	8
10. Dice'd Dolls	3	9
11. Lois Lanes	2	10
12. Myrna's Boys	2	6
13. Number 12	1	11
14. Number 14	0	4

MONDAY COMMUNITY

(Week 4 of 29 - as of 11/04/84)

1. Play With It, Ltd.	14	2
2. Yeah!!!!	13	3
3. Dish	11	5
4. Short Circuits	11	5
5. New York Man	10	2
6. All the President's Men	9.5	2.5
7. Sutter's Mill	9	7
8. Bow-K	8	8
9. Trash-Lottas	8	8
10. Play With It, Please	7	9
11. Rick's Rompers	7	9
12. Number 2	6.5	9.5
13. Pick-Up's	5	11
14. Rick's	5	11
15. Number 17	4	8
16. Damaged Goods	3	13
17. Number 15	3	9
18. Castro Country Club	2	14

TUESDAY COMMUNITY

(Week 4 of 29 - as of 10/30/84)

1. Easy Pick-Ups	13	3
2. Splitz	11	5
3. Guys & Balls	10	6
4. Shud-A-Bin	10	6
5. OOOOO's	9	7
6. Late Nite Rollers	9	7
7. Oh Merde!	9	7
8. 5 Easy Pieces	9	7
9. Team 07	8	8
10. Crisco Kids	8	8
11. Lady & the Tramps	8	8
12. Ethel	8	8
13. Ringold Rollers	8	8
14. Overnights	6	10

15. Shanti—T.A.'s	5	11
16. Phoenix Phantoms	5	11
17. Not Easy	4	12
18. Hopeless	4	12

WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY

(Week 5 of 32 - as of 10/24/84)

1. Sutter's Mill—I	15	5
2. High Gear	14	6
3. Bananas Without Attitude	13	7
4. The Pimento	13	7
5. Thing!!!	12	8
6. Rag-Tags	12	8
7. Stud City	12	8
8. Sutter's Mill Also	10	10
9. Church Street Station	10	6
10. Rockin' Rollers	9	11
11. Pilsner Vultures	9	11
12. 4 Coachmen + One	9	11
13. Quiet Fire	9	7
14. Salsa Supremes	8	12
15. Number 9	7	13
16. Pinhead II	5	15
17. Gutter Girls	5	15
18. White Swallow	4	16

THURSDAY COMMUNITY

(Week 6 of 32 - as of 11/01/84)

1. Old Rick's Gold Room	17	7
2. Number 9	17	7
3. Twin Peaks	14.5	9.5
4. Dougalettes	14	10
5. Pilsner Kingpins	12	12
6. 2 Lefts + A Right	11.5	12.5
7. Pendulum #1	11	13
8. Pendulum Spare Parts	9	15
9. Number 3	6	18
10. Pilsner 2	6	18

HAWAII VACATION

(Week 4 of 29 - as of 10/30/84)

1. El Rio II	24.5	11.5
2. Puhio's	23	13
3. Boys R Us	21	15
4. Mane Islanders	21	15
5. Number 10	21	15
6. 2 + 2	20	16
7. Stella's Ducks	18	18
8. Lady and the Tramps	14	22
9. El Rio Tartarugas #1	12	24
10. Scottie's Alley-Oops	5.5	30.5

SFFA SCOREBOARD

TEAM STANDINGS and PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

DIVISION ONE

DeLuxe Spare Tires	126- 50.715	Maud's Squad	53-123 .301
Stallion International	122- 54.693		
Macante's MARTYRS	103- 73.585		
Febe's Snow	97- 79.551		
Ramrod Riders	85- 90.485		
Maud's	82- 94.465		
Bear Shots	80- 90.457		
Chaps Sticks	80- 96.454		
Pilsner Doughboys	73-103.414		
Transfer Fast Passes	64-112.363		
Pendulum Panthers	55-121.312		

DIVISION TWO

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Febe's	122- 70.635	2. R. Moore	30- 6 .333
Eagle Creek Chaos	122- 70.635	3. C. Bradley	25- 6 .306
Stallion Nightmares	112- 80.583	4. D. Chua	33- 8 .304
Transfer Tigers	107- 85.557	5. Ray Peterson	32-10 .761
Pilsner Ltd	103- 89.536	6. Ron McKay	35-12 .744
Pendulum Pirates	102- 90.531	7. A. Buholtz	29-10 .743
Bear Claws	84-108.437	8. D. Hall	28-10 .736
Ramrod Rascals	83-109.432	9. W. Kazee	19-07 .730
Guantes de Macantes	75-117.390	10. D. Lechner	26-10 .722
Brig Guards	60-132 .312	11. D. Timko	25-10 .714
		12. B. White	31-13 .704
		13. C. Dossert	21-09 .700
		14. N. Maheras	33-15 .687
		15. L. Duncan	30-14 .681
		16. B. Von Prillwitz	27-13 .675
		17. S. Bridgers	22-11 .666
		18. L. Ward	29-15 .659
		19. J. Schou	25-13 .657
		20. R. Asai	21-11 .656

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All ages welcome
Saturday practices in Golden Gate Park

BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R. BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS



Not Just An Ordinary Weekend

In spite of the lousy weather for most of last week, the sunny spirit of everyone who participated in last weekend's events was bright and strong. Saturday night, the SF Gay Freedom Day Marching Band put on a rousing concert that rated four-stars by everyone in attendance at the sell-out performance. God knows you can't ask for a better audience than a Gay one, especially when they like you, and this audience was in good spirits and rewarded the performers with ovation after ovation.

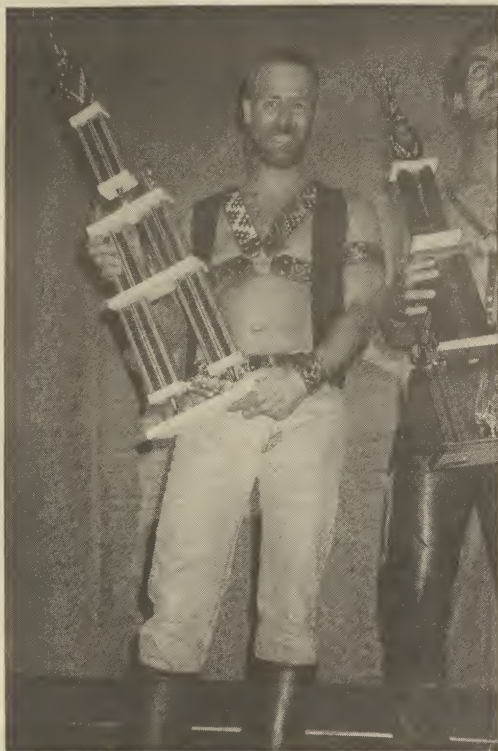
Immediately following that event, some 3,000 happy faces trekked over to Fishy Warf for the PIER PRESSURE Great Golden Cha-Cha Party, where Larry Corey and Henry Winslow of NY had an exceptionally hunky crowd dancing up a storm for 12 Solid Hours. Talk about blowing off steam! In one of its rare appearances of the day Sunday morning, the sun peeped into the wide open doors of Shed C at Pier 45 around 9 a.m. and freaked out at seeing still some 1,000 sweaty torsos dancing up a storm. In a private

survey conducted that night, 100 people admitted it was the best \$8 they ever spent, and the ONLY complaint was the long line at the coat check and drink ticket booths. That being the only flaw in the otherwise classy first effort by Jim Cvitanich and Mark Abramson, it was overshadowed by the surprise visit by The Supremes and Rita Rockett as a prom queen with a pink wig and tiara. Oh it was a hot party, all right! The bartenders were beyond excellent, and the shift change at 0300 hours gave the appearance of a brand new party. They're already asking for an encore. At last: a disco party that didn't cost an arm and a leg, and drink prices even a tee-totaler couldn't pass up. Accolades of the highest degree for Pier Pressure. Thanks for knowing—and caring—what the men of this town want. Even the women were hot.

Act II, same scene. Noon Sunday. THE leather Fall Season officially opened as the doors swung wide for CMC Carnival XIX. A sea of bikes materialized, and another sell-out

crowd engulfed the environs as frightened tourists found themselves outnumbered by men all hell-bent for leather. The Gay Men's Chorus did the opening honors with Ernie Viniegas again garbed in glistening leather, leading his flock of nighingales to lusty crescendos that garnered equally lusty applause. I thought it was just a little off-key until La Petite Perry (as in George) slipped into his position—late again! All kidding aside, with Danny Williams, the Skip Barrett Ramblers, the Barbary Coast Cloggers, the Tap Troupe, and the Mr. Carnival Contest, you couldn't have asked for more.

By now, you probably know that everyone's favorite bartender, David Stoll of the SF-Eagle, literally romped all over the competition in his bid for the Mr. Carnival title. The five contestants were HOT all right, and well received by the huge crowd. But like the 49-ers crushing defeat of Cleveland just a few hours earlier, the money rolled into David's little plastic box. I mean, people just walked up to him and stuffed handsfull of the



David (Stella) Stoll, Mr. CMC Carnival (Photo: R. Pruzan)

green into it, not to mention a few checks. And his charity was the Dennis Yount Memorial Fund, who was David's roommate at one time.

So without the least bit of hesitation, and judging from the numerous comments over the weekend, it was definitely the Great Non-Rip Off weekend in San Francisco. I hope you didn't miss it. And I hope you'll have an opportunity to do it again next time. Pier Pressure and the CMC Carnival. Quite frankly, it was an exquisite weekend marriage.

Great news leaked out over the weekend, too. Walter Mel-

lon and Nick Weiler are still on the Board of Directors of the SF AIDS Fund. And even more exciting, their complete financial statement will be forthcoming in the near future. Now I can get some rest, and the inquisitive ones can find something else to pick on.

Dish-Ditty Do Da

If you just happen to be in San Diego this Saturday night, you can attend the Mr. Leather of San Diego contest at Mr. Dillons. Yes, Virginia, there IS leather in San Diego, and most of it is HOT. There's a whole lot of other events tied in with the contest itself, so if you're down

(Continued on next page)

ENDUP
11TH ANNIVERSARY
THURS. NOV. 15
8PM - 2AM
COMPLIMENTARY BUFFET
NO COVER
ENTERTAINMENT: MARY BUFFET
6TH and HARRISON



Belly up to the bar boys. Sailors and Army captains mingled at Canteen (Photo: Rink)

MARCUS

cont. from previous page

there, check in at the Loading Zone for the schedule ... The fun-loving GDI's take the spotlight this Saturday night with its annual A Date at Minsky's—this year at the Palace (of Fine Arts), so don't get too snuffy. I can't wait for the leather invasion in the staid Marina neighborhood! ... Mark I. Chester and Michael Rosen open their INSIDE-OUTSIDE photo show this Friday from 6-10 p.m., presenting two views of radical sexuality. You can get the address by calling 621-6294 ... Over at the AMBUSH, the gifted artist, Leslie Aguilar, plunges into the art world with his works on Tuesday, Nov. 20 around 5:30 p.m. It'll be a double celebration too because Les celebrates his birthday the next day ... A new jazzy store opens Saturday at 406 Castro—it's ALL THAT JAZZ, with crystal galore and gifts for the discriminating buyer, just in time for Christmas. Bob Badeau is very excited about the new annex to his thriving card shop right around the corner on 18th ... John Preston, known to thousands for his incisive writing with such classics as *Mr. Benson*, *Franny the Queen of Provincetown*, and his latest collaboration with Frederick Brandt, *Classified Affairs*, blows into town this week too, and will be autographing his books at the STUDSTORE from 3 to 6 p.m. this Saturday, Nov., 17—all his loves, ex-loves, and ex-tricks are panting already ... And you may as well start planning for the big disco party at the Galleria Saturday night, Nov. 24 (after the turkey). It's called LAST CALL, and goes from 10 p.m. until 5 a.m. featuring JOLO premiering its latest hit of the same name. The tickets are only \$11 in advance or \$15 at the door and available at Headlines, All American Hunk, New York Man, Ron's Records and Music Media, and all brought to you by TM Productions ... Friday evening, Nov. 16, at 6 p.m., Jack Fritscher will sign his latest books, *Corporal in Charge of Taking Care of Capt. O'Malley* and *Leather Blues*. *Corporal* is a set of short stories, and *Blues* is a great novel, both of which are available in the 'Bush's leather penthouse and book stores all over town, all by Gay Sunshine Press, of course. That ought to keep you all busy 'til I get back from judging the Mr. Leather of San Diego contest.

Search and Dishstroy

Would you believe that at the age of 69 years old, London's legendary S&M Icon, Felix Jones, is emigrating to Adelaide, Australia? Not only a new country, but a new career, because our Felix has mastered the art of making whips and sets up shop immediately upon disembarking ... And the dish all over town is that Bobby (*Animals*) Betcher got canned from the *Starlight Room* because "you're TOO South of Market"! This coming from a bar that has always advertised: "Just 10 feet South of Market" (?) ... You can have that cute Gary Garrison for

\$6 and all the beer you can drink, and listen to him sing, accompanied by the Gay Men's Chorus, this Sunday, Nov. 18, from 3 to 6 p.m., so start standing in line NOW ... If you're wondering why you haven't seen "JC" Krawchuck, formerly of UAL and the Pilsner Inn, he's hooked on Bingo Games on West Fairford Blvd. It's getting so bad that if he doesn't win on the boards, he mugs the little old ladies in the parking lot! ... And Philip the Prince de Topaz is trying to figure out how to get the make-up off his pillow cases after trysting with one of our latest leather title holders. You can translate the word trysting any way you like, but any dummy could rhyme it too ... Still there? Gaily forward! I know there are some video vultures out there, and TV is getting gayer and gayer. If you call KPIX (Channel 5) they can probably tell you when The People's Court will air Show Number 704, Case #1468, Campbell vs. Dobson, OR, "The Case of What's the Beef and Where's the Beef?". Two Gay men "roommates" (translate: lovers) —Campbell claims that during an argument his former roommate shoved him violently backwards and he hit his head. When he came "to" in the hospital he saw blood on his roommate's mouth and then learned part of his ear had been bitten off. Suing the \$1,500 for hospital bills, the ex-roommate also took things from the house, including a side of beef! What the press release DIDN'T point out is that Campbell is a former member of the BUDDY M/C in Los Angeles, and is ALWAYS scraping with his lovers, but they never got on TV before! Don't miss THIS one ... And while you're still enraptured of the Boob Tube, former Gay Softball League Commissioner Tom Vindeed has been accepted as a contestant on NAME THAT TUNE (Channel 7) any day now after Nov. 25. Not only does Tom know the "oldies," he also knows the "goodies," so start switching those channels—this should be a riot! ... I also met a script typist from L.A. at the CMC Carnival who types the scripts for *Dynasty*, and Alexis will be out of jail real soon. It seems as though the show's costume designer absolutely refuses to design a line of prison garb. Actually, Alexis IS innocent, and the killer, when revealed, is a secret even wild horse couldn't drag out of me!

★ ★ ★

Well boys and girls, it was a rough week and a rougher weekend, so I'll leave you so I can take those new Drinker's Formula vitamin pills. They work! Available at Mister S's main store and the shop at the SF-Eagle. Thank you all for making this past weekend a wonderful experience. And to Mr. Carnival David Stoll—you pee'd honey! Until we meet next week, and for EXCLUSIVE photos of Mr. Leather of San Diego, remember: Nothing is quite as funny as the un-intended humor of—reality! See you on Campi North and Campi South! ■

Mister Marcus

Auditions for 'After Dark'

The European nightclub revue, *After Dark*, which is in its American premiere at the Alcazar Theatre, has extended its original six-week run for another two weeks. The show will remain at the Alcazar through Dec. 1.

After Dark will also hold its first auditions outside Europe Saturday, Nov. 17, from noon

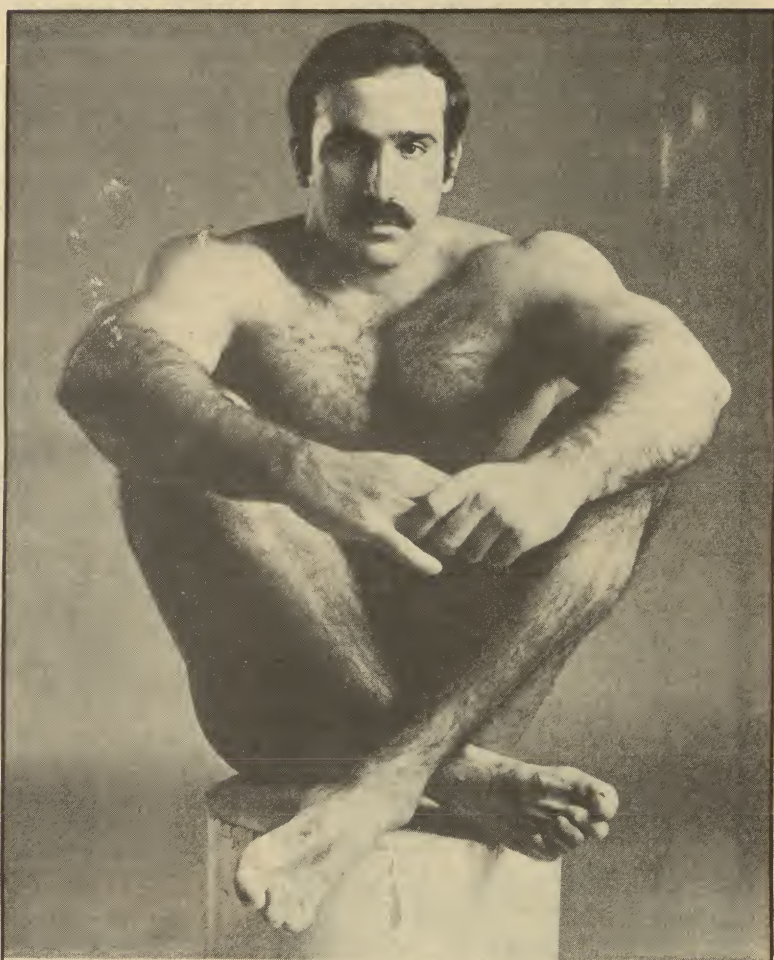
to 4 pm, at the theater. The open call for male dancers is for a cast replacement of long-time performer Lars Stureson, who is leaving the company after six years to continue his vocation as head of the nursing staff at a major hospital in Stockholm, Sweden.

Performances are Tuesdays through Fridays at 8:30 p.m., and Saturdays at 8 and 11 p.m.

For further information and reservations, please call 775-7100. ■



A rather attached couple at the CMC Carnival (Photo: Rink)



MANFLESH

This week's program at the Nob Hill is a homage to men with a muscular body. Few, if any, male models are as famous as Bruno. His hirsute, muscular physique has become the epitome of hairy masculinity. His is the mass of manflesh we think about when we dream of turning our faces into thrones. Joining him this week, in our special salute is Jessie Dittmar, Helmut Krod, Ben Cody, Will Garret, Frank Vickers, Glen Steers and Michael Christopher. This time, you won't be disappointed.

★ LIVE J/O SHOWS DAILY!

WORLD PREMIERE NOV. 21

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BITCH IN HEAT

Leaping Hormones

PHOTOGRAPHY

Hi, Sissies, Hi! She blinded me with Science. *Science* magazine has confirmed what Mary-Louise reported on April 26 in the *B.A.R.* It's about time. Researchers have discovered convincing and astounding evidence that Gay people aren't like straight people. Is this news? This is another of those things which seems so obvious it hardly bears discussion.

But news it is. The study, breezily titled "Neuroendocrine Response to Estrogen and Sexual Orientation" has garnered headlines coast to coast and even in the middle. This is Big Stuff here. If Gays are born not made (quit snickering back there) then the fundamentalists and their recruitment rap are all full of shit. This is another of those things which seems so obvious it hardly bears discussion.

The article in *Science* does bear discussion. The research took place at the State University of New York, Stony Brook. It analyzed the response of the

neuroendocrine system to estrogen. The neuroendocrine system is where the nervous system meets the sex drive. It starts at the base of the brain in the hypothalamus and pituitary gland and runs to the gonads. Don't you just love Science? "Go-nads." It sounds so clinical.

Anyway, the researchers recruited straight women, straight men and Gay men. They measured sex-related hormones, then hit up the subjects with estrogen. Then they measured the hormonal response of the various subjects. Yes, I know. This sounds like the type of thing that used to go on South of Market all the time but this time somebody was taking notes.

The results were as they say statistically significant. Hormones of the straight men didn't react much to the estrogen, which is generally but not altogether accurately called the "female hormone." Hormones of the straight women bounced all over the chart, as may be



Dancin' the night away at Pier Pressure (Photo: Kink)

expected.

But here's the fun part. After exposure to estrogen, the Gay men's hormones got all excited too. They followed the same pattern as that found in the straight women—although not in as high an intensity.

"We found that men declaring a lifelong homosexual orientation had patterns of luteinizing hormone and testosterone secretion in response to estrogen that were intermediate between those of men and women," the study said. "... comparisons between the homosexual and heterosexual men revealed significant differences in their response patterns."

What, as they say, is the "bottom line?" Mary-Louise just loves clinical phrases like "bottom line." If Bob Ross gives us more money, we're going to put in a readers' call-in telephone to Mary-Louise and surely we'll have to call it the Bottom Line. But I digress.

The bottom line is that scientists believe the neuroendocrine system is a key factor in sexual response and orientation. This study indicates significant differences in how that system responds in straight men, straight women and Gay men. Thus, the research argues strongly that being Gay is a biological state—not a choice made by teenagers who want to grow up tasteful. One reservation: Some of the Gay men showed bigger estrogen responses than others. You get to guess who they are.

In the meantime, what about the dykes?

★ ★ ★

You read it here first. As usual, camp outpaces Science. On April 26, Mary-Louise—discussing findings of undercover research involving 1,700 Gay men and seven confused sailors—had this to say about that.

"Check his estrogen level right now!" she wrote. "We've all got it, you know—and yes (gasp!) IT'S TRUE (oh no!) homos do indeed have generally higher levels of that female hormone than the Real Man."

"I fear the channel beneath the Golden Gate Bridge may not be deep enough to hold all the hurled bodies of disillusioned readers who will leap after learning this fact."

Don't jump. Let your hormone levels jump for you.

★ ★ ★

The reports of the death of disco, to paraphrase Samuel Clemens, may be greatly exaggerated. Then again maybe not.

Since Mary-Louise and Ger-

trude Stein went on down to the disco the weekend of the Castro Street Fair, something of a revivalist movement has been aborning out there. Dance formats at a couple of the clubs have been altered a bit and more of the boomp-boomp-boomp shake your ass stuff has hit the turntable.

Same trend this weekend saw Pier 45 billing a blast-from-the-past dance party with promises of "Disco classics from the '70s" packing them in. The overwhelming response to this event shows, says Mary-Louise, that there's quite a demand out there for the danceable stuff.

The Pier 45 affair almost had its plugs pulled by the cops by the way. Only days before it was to happen—after ads had been run and tickets printed and some sold—the cops decided the affair had to close down at 2 a.m. Disaster loomed, pandemonium reigned.

Luckily Mayor DiFi was in China falling all over the ancient cities, and Louise Renne was in Room 200 City Hall. The acting mayor felt disposed to help the Gay community which had helped her win reelection with a surprisingly large vote total. So she called off the heat and the party went on as planned till the

wee hours.

(Sex police were on the job though. Eternal vigilance is the price of chastity. One of Mary-Louise's friends retired to a darkened corner of the pier to take off his cock ring. The music was that good! Quicker than you could say "safe sex" a big man in a day-glo orange windbreaker was on hand shining a very long flashlight at the buttons of said miscreant's 501s. Well.)

A good time was had by all.

★ ★ ★

The Disco Revival continues at the Galleria Saturday Nov. 24 with "Last Call, a Tribute to the Classics." The deejay is Beau Thompson so there is great excitement building for this affair already. Producing is TM Productions which, along with Sutter's Mill, launched the "Men of San Francisco" hop at the Galleria the eve of the Castro Street Fair. The price of this one is down—\$11 advance and \$15 door—compared to \$20 for "Men." Let's see if the promise of Disco classics packs the Galleria as it did Pier 45. Be there or be square, disco till you puke and all that.

Bye, Sissies, Bye. ■



Do hormones have anything to do with this?

WORLD PREMIERE! SLAVES FOR SALE



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

The two-hour blockbuster about a modern slave-master who captures hot and hunky men of the streets, turns them into sexual slaves and sells them to the highest bidder! This is the first time *Slaves for Sale* has ever been shown in a theatre—and only the Nob Hill could bring it to you!

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SWEET LIPS SEZ . . .

Scooplets

Scooplet: The hit Swedish musical *After Dark* now at the Alcazar Theatre, is having a cast replacement audition . . . open call for all male dancers . . . bring dance shoes and your own music on cassette, resume, and photo on Saturday the 17th of November from noon 'till 4 p.m. This is a great opportunity for some talented young and attractive dancers because this is a hot, hot show.

Watch for the next column that will tell you all about the double birthday party that is coming up on Saturday the 1st of December for Andy and Sweep Lips at Googies . . . it'll be a real blast that you won't want to miss.

The one and only Mr. Michael Greer will be in town shortly doing his famous routines . . . On Sunday afternoon on the 25th he will be at Chaps (South of Market) and on Monday and Tuesday at the popular Sutter's Mill Cabaret (the 26th and 27th at 7 p.m.) . . . so make your reservations early for this talented entertainer . . . hi Michael.

Happy belated birthday greetings to Seth, who is now on the planks at the popular Giraffe on Polk Street . . . did you enjoy your surprise birthday party last Sunday? Hi Cellan.

The Gate at Pine and Jones will be serving Thanksgiving Dinner from 2:30 'till 7 p.m., but do make your reservations

early . . . 885-2852 . . . turkey and ham and all of the trimmings.

Understand there will be a farewell party for Lucy (aka Lynn Bumpus) at the White Swallow Sunday the 25th . . . Lucy is moving to Portland, Oregon—I shouldn't have let him go with me on vacation—and lo and behold the one and only Tom Morgan is coming back to work at the White Swallow . . . bet he changes his hair color before he moves back from San Diego because summer blondes are out now.

Two nice guests in town last weekend from Portland—Dan Egan and Steve Suss from the very popular Embers/Avenue . . . thought that you were coming with them, Jeannie. But the next time you come down, Steve, would you stay longer and try to find the great framed (Dreamgirls) gift that the cast gave to me that it seems the first Emperor of Portland, Kim has misplaced?

Danny Blythe is celebrating his 36th birthday tomorrow, and his great friend Nick Gardner is taking him to luncheon . . . bring money, Danny.

Bob Dunn of the Hob Nob returns tomorrow from a vacation in New Mexico, and is bringing his mother back to spend the Thanksgiving holidays . . . that's nice, Bob.

Nice to have you back from

your European vacation Art York, and now we get to see Johnny Kehr more often because he was heart broken while you were away . . . hi, Jim Dewey.

Tonight the Arena is having its annual Turkey Shoot . . . Nov. 15 from 9 p.m. 'till closing they give a turkey away every half hour . . . you get a ticket with every drink, and that is a lot of turkey, Carl.

Yesterday, was Lon's birthday (former owner of the Pines) and Hal Call's roommate. Incidentally, Hal Call is in Hawaii with Chuck and Nick of Googie's and the great Jim Stites went with Hal to surprise the others . . . hope you all had a great time, and Chuck will be back on the planks at Googie's tomorrow, and I hope they all have a great tan . . . can I see your tan line, Nickie?

Totie of the New Bell has gotten a haircut in the back room of Googies from Dolly Dale . . . how come Russ doesn't send you enough money so that you can go to a barber, Frankie?

Remember to make your Thanksgiving reservations early at your favorite dinner house . . . I am lucky to have been invited to a large dinner given by David and Bob (Robert Michael Productions) and my dining companion is none other than the great Helen Trent of Kokpit fame . . . you are a sweetheart, Helen.

DICK WALTERS

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(Jacking Off Only)

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Thurs. BIGGEST COCK CONTEST at Midnight (\$25 for winner)

**BODY BUILDERS NIGHT Sun. 7-11
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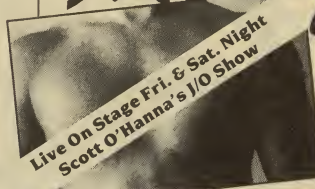
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SAVAGES



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Lively luncheon hosted by Char and John of the Kokpit for their visitors from Alaska (Photo: Rink)

Karl's Calendar

Thursday, Nov. 15: Pipeline (Festus) Grand Opening, 8 p.m., (celebration of new ownership: Char and John as in Kokpit with Bobby Shore as in Starlight Rm.)

Imperial Guard 8th Anniversary, Kimo's, 8 p.m., buffet and show.

Forum Meeting, 527 Bryant, 8:30 p.m., 1985 dates (MC's) announced.

4th Annual Turkey Shoot, Arena, Turkey Raffle each half hour, from 9 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 16: Inside-Outside, Two Views of Radical Sexuality, New Photographs by Mark I. Chester and Michael Rosen, Open Studio, 1934 Folsom, 6-10 p.m., reservations 621-6294 (also 11/17 and 18, 2-6 p.m.).

Saturday, Nov. 17: Big Game Kickoff: The Village, 6 a.m. to noon, GSL fundraiser—Cal/Stanford Game John Preston in Person (author of *Mr. Benson*), Studstore, 960 Folsom,

3 to 6 p.m., autograph party for his new book.

Hello Minsky's Hello, Palace of Fine Arts Theater, \$10, at most fine pubs, 7 p.m. doors open, 8 p.m. show.

Mr. San Diego Contest, Dillons (University Ave. near 6th St.), 8 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 18: Pajama Party, Pendulum, 7 a.m. to noon, fundraiser for Tessie's Thanksgiving senior dinner, host Lee-ona.

49ER FOOTBALL, 1 p.m., Febe's and Trax (hotdogs) Village and Men's Room (49er TD=Drinks), Chaps, SF Eagle, Kokpit (brunch 69c), Renegade.

Gay Men's Chorus Does the Eagle, Beer Bust \$6, 3 to 6 p.m., SF Eagle Patio.

Tuesday, Nov. 20: ICF Meeting, 8 p.m., 527 Bryant.

Wednesday, Nov. 21: New Works by Leslie Equilar, Ambush 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. reception.

We Need a Logo

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus is looking for a new logo. Any artist who would like to enter a logo competition for this purpose can mail entries to the Golden Gate Performing Arts office at 890 Hayes St., S.F., 94117, or turn them in to any chorus member.

The person who wins the contest will receive a prize to be awarded at the chorus' Christmas concert at Norse Auditorium. The winning logo will be used on all future chorus t-shirts, banners, jackets, and record albums. The only wording requested in the logo is "San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus."

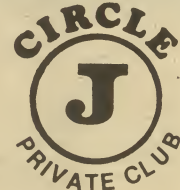
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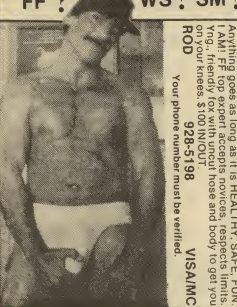
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